



**University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**

2007-08 Annual Report





## **Our Vision**

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union strives to be the recognized leader in enhancing the student experience.

## **Our Mission**

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union exists to represent, serve, and support the academic and non-academic needs of undergraduate students of the University of Saskatchewan through accountable, dynamic, and unified leadership. It also serves to protect and maintain the integrity of quality accessible public education.

## **Our Values**

The following principles shall guide the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union in all of its endeavours: innovation; integrity; mutual respect; professionalism; service; social, economic, and environmental responsibility; teamwork; and trust.





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“We focused primarily on ... **accountability, transparency, sustainability, and outreach** ...”

## 2007-08 USSU President’s Message

It is with great glowing pride that I am able to present the USSU Annual Report for the 2007/2008 term. The Executive for this term was very busy with many initiatives spilling over from past years, as well as initiating new long-term projects. We focused primarily on the accountability, transparency, sustainability, and outreach in all of our projects. We made Student Council and the Board of College Presidents a far more integral part of the USSU’s decision making processes.

The city of Saskatoon went through a massive housing shortage for low-income people. Since students generally fall into the low-income bracket, the USSU took a very active roll in raising awareness of the housing issue, if not spearheading it. We put together many initiatives to raise awareness of the housing crisis, as well as some short-term solution; these included a tent-out in the bowl, a provincial day of action, and creating a ‘boarder registry’ to house student immediately. We also worked very closely with administration, city councilors, provincial MLAs to get medium and long-term solutions in place.

The entire month of November was plagued with a job action strike between CUPE 1975 and the U of S Administration, especially concerning the Human Resources department. Since the USSU was not at the bargaining table, and it was not our position to play mediator, we felt choosing a side would have been a wasted effort. It was the official position of the USSU to remain neutral with a focus on mitigating the impact of the strike on students. We met with both sides on many occasions and even brought both units in to answer questions at Student Council. We also

“Every decision that was made was done with **students** and their best interests in mind.”

organized a student rally to raise awareness on student suffering. When the provincial government stepped in and ended the strike, the USSU successfully procured a 500,000-dollar reimbursement from administration to the student body for lost services, and over 25,000 dollars to specific students who lost clinical time. It is worth noting that no Canadian university has ever reimbursed students for a non-academic strike.

This term was also full of projects successfully carried out by the cooperation of the executive and the USSU staff. The renovation to Place Riel has been a constant this year, requiring the creation of the Place Riel Student Advisory Committee, and the hard work of many staff and executive members. The USSU took an active role in the molding of the university's second Integrated Plan, including the addition of a student submission to the plan. The USSU took an active stance on the provincial election, providing as much information as possible in order to get student informed and involved. The executive traveled to many off-campus colleges, as far as LaRonge, in an attempt at outreach and accountability, with extremely positive results. Plenty of work went into sustainable initiatives this term including a waste audit, a mugging campaign (using coffee mugs, not non-recyclable cups), and even a composting system. The USSU's budget was a great success, with several training sessions in order for all students to participate. And finally the USSU submitted a proposal for a second public accountability meeting of the Board of Governors in March, which was successful in allowing many students to attend.

The final initiative taken on by the executive of this term, that has been an underlying goal in everything we did, was to make the USSU more appealing and engaging. Every decision that was made was done with students and their best interests in mind. Sure there were bound to be disagreements, but we prevailed by keeping these principles close, which hopefully resulted in a USSU that truly cares about its members.



James Pepler  
USSU President - 2007-08



“ ... this Executive was determined to create a more calm environment ”  
...

## 2007-08 USSU General Manager’s Message

What an exciting year 2007-08 has been for the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union. As is always the case on May 1st, we inducted a new Executive consisting of James Pepler as President; Jeremy Ring as VP Operations and Finance; Josie Steeves, VP Academic; Nicole Kenney, VP Student Issues; and, Lindsey Levesque, VP External. Because 2006-07 had been such a controversial and politically charged year, this Executive was determined to create a more calm environment in which the pressing business of the USSU could be conducted.

And we did have pressing business to conduct. First and foremost on our agenda was the continuing development of the expansion and renovation of Place Riel Student Centre. This is a project that has been underway in various iterations for a number of years, but over the course of 2006-07 started to take definitive shape. In 2005-06 University Students’ Council paved the way for progress by approving the collection of an infrastructure fee of \$44.00 per student per term to finance the renovation. The Board of Governors also approved collection of this fee and this allowed the USSU and their design team, led by Saunders Evans Architects, to proceed so that by the end of April, a great deal of planning had been done.

The USSU also invested very significantly in a systematic study of its restaurant and pub, Louis’, by commissioning lawyer Jeff Galbraith to examine the operation from historical, financial, comparative, and operational perspectives. In essence, his study concluded that Louis’ was doing very well and that there were few practical areas in which major change could be effected. A second major initiative was




“The USSU continues to be a highly dynamic and creative organization.”

the implementation of a U-PASS system in the first of a two-year pilot project. All undergraduate students, with the exception of those living permanently outside the city limits, those living on campus, those with disability, and those taking only distance education classes, are assessed a term fee which allows them unlimited access to city transit for four months. Considering the complexity of the system, its implementation went extremely smoothly in both the fall and winter terms.

Amid these initiatives the USSU, like other groups on campus, had to deal with a protracted strike by the support staff of CUPE 1975. Although encouraged to take a side in this dispute, President James Pepler steadfastly insisted that the USSU's only role was to safeguard the interests of undergraduate students regardless of the actions being taken by staff or management. When the strike ended the USSU was able to negotiate a small rebate to all students for the inconvenience they were caused.

As is usual the USSU also underwent some staff change. For a significant portion of the year I was both General Manager and Acting HR Manager and we saw a number of other changes. The non-kitchen management staff of Louis' changed completely when George Foufas left our employ and went to the university's food services. He was replaced by Events and Promotions Manager Jason Kovitch which then created a cascade effect eventuating in Dominique Taillon becoming the new Events Manager and Nick Graham taking responsibility as the Night Manager. The supervisors at both Browsers and the Information Centre also changed with Amanda Borycki taking over at Browsers and Poonam Rama assuming responsibility for the Information Centre. The Pride and Help Centres also saw new Coordinators – Emily Coates and Tina Elliot respectively. The Communications Department witnessed a full staff change with Tony Bassett accepting the position of Communications Manager, ably assisted by Graphic and Media Designer, Olivia Swerhone-Wick. Finally, Stefanie Livingston changed roles and accepted a new position as assistant to the Marketing Manager and the Manager of Facilities and Operations.

One of my most important roles continues to be that of enabling the Executive to carry out its work. Among other things this involves sitting as a non-voting member of Executive Committee and acting as a resource when called upon for University Students' Council. I attend their Thursday meetings and ensure that the materials and information they need are provided and are accurate. I represent the USSU on the USSU Daycare Board, the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Board, the WUSC committee, the Student Issues Board, the Joint Liaison Committee, and the Coke Steering Committee as well as on committees related to the proposed renovation and



expansion of Place Riel.

The USSU continues to be a highly dynamic and creative organization. We continue to examine the ways in which we do business and have made significant commitments to ensuring Work/Family/Life Balance, and to treating each other with deep respect while we work towards achieving our mutually agreed upon common goals and to maintaining our mission to be the recognized leader in enhancing the student experience at the University of Saskatchewan.



Caroline Cottrell  
USSU General Manager



**“Reflecting  
on 2007-08  
the Facilities &  
Operations of  
the Students’  
Union  
enjoyed  
another good  
year ...”**

## **Facilities & Operations Manager’s Message**

The USSU Facilities & Operations started the 2007/08 on the fast track and it has not stopped! But during this very busy year, we have had great success in meeting many of our goals.

Our new transformer hook-up was finalized in the fall of 2007. This now provides enough electrical capacity to plan seriously for our expansion and renovation. We are working closely with Saunders Evans Architects, students, University staff and other consultants to make our renovation plan a reality.

When the University support staff in CUPE 1975 went on strike for the month of November, the Place Riel Student Centre and the MUB were essentially unaffected. All of our operations and those of our tenants remained open to serve the University Community.

We also served the Community through the implementation of a gift card system. These cards can be given away as gifts and/or purchased by students, faculty or staff. They are very popular and are available at all of the USSU operations.

A further service to the Community came from the implementation of U-PASS. In late August and the beginning of September, the Students’ Union took U-PASS out to some colleges and the Administration building in order to get the stickers on student cards prior to classes starting. Although the line-ups were long, the students were polite and the process went smoothly! The January term stickers

**“2007/08  
staffing was  
a challenge  
for all of our  
facilities and  
operations.”**

were a little better than the first run stickers of September. We are continuing to improve on them for the upcoming year. If the program becomes permanent, Transit will look at putting swipe stations on each bus. This program is another successful initiative of the Students' Union Executive and their Administrative staff.

2007/08 staffing was a challenge for all of our facilities and operations. We had staff changes in almost all of our areas. Browsers hired a new Supervisor; Louis' replaced a Food & Beverage Manager and an Assistant Manager; Janitorial hired 2 new staff members; and, the Information Centre hired a new Supervisor due to the creation of a new position called the Facilities & Events Assistant. Today's labour market creates challenges, but the USSU continues to meet these challenges through a highly progressive work environment.

The Students' Union's Facilities and Operations overcame a number of difficulties in 2007-08 to enjoy a very good year.

### **BROWSERS**

Two of the major operating challenges that affected Browsers this year came directly from the University. The University took the stand that even though Browsers deals only in used books, it was competition and therefore did not give Browsers the booklists for the first time in 10 years. Browsers staff had to spend a considerable amount of time pulling the information off the University's website. While that was happening we turned down textbooks because we did not know if the text was going to be used again. By the second term we knew we were not getting the booklist, so started the process of taking the information from the website earlier and were prepared.

The University also decided to increase their quotas on used books. This meant that the number of used books that formerly came to Browsers was reduced because they were being bought back by the University's Bookstore. Unfortunately, this decreased the consignments available to the students who use Browsers. Another challenge was the number of new editions this year making fewer books eligible for consignment. Although Browsers experienced many challenges this year both financially and operationally, the staff worked hard and were able to maintain the operation as a great place to relax, surf the net or to browse, buy books and have a specialty coffee.

“Louis’ ...  
enjoyed  
a very  
successful  
2007/08.”

### **COPY CENTRAL**

The Copy Central operation has been stable for many years and continued to be so in 2007/08. This operation provides quality photocopying services on either a self serve or assisted basis. Our full-time technician offers same day service in the event of any malfunctions. The primary hub of the operation is located on the main floor of the Murray Library. There are 40 photocopier machines located across the University Campus. The machines include a coin operated system and a declining balance card option.

### **INFORMATION CENTRE**

The USSU Information Centre is a hub for students who need information on any number of on-campus or off-campus issues and services. A new full-time Information Centre Supervisor was hired in December 2007 and she rapidly learned her new role. The Information Centre staff made sure that every student eligible for U-Pass received a U-PASS sticker on their student cards in September and in January. This was no small feat. The Information Centre is open at 8:15 a.m. to accommodate students on campus for 8:30 and remains open until 5:00 to accommodate staff members who work until 4:30. Its utility to the campus community is evidenced through how busy the staff continues to be.

### **LOUIS’**

Louis’ also enjoyed a very successful 2007/08. We closed the year showing a net income for the first time in 6 years. This was achieved by working at maximum capacity all year long! We concentrated on increasing wedding and special event bookings, especially during our summer down time. We upgraded our audio/video equipment in order to attract small conferences and seminars. We purchased more catering dishes and glassware to accommodate more bookings. These and other initiatives have been very successful.

University Student Council approved the cost of upgrading the sewer connection at the Beach Volleyball courts. Rather than the buried septic system that we have been working with for a number of years, the facility will be connected to the City of Saskatoon sewer system. We will open our league in May 2008 with the brand new sewer system in place. The Louis’ Beach Volleyball league remains popular and we continue to upgrade to keep the users happy.



## **XL DESIGN & REPRODUCTIONS**

Business continues to increase for XL Design & Reproductions. As a result of the installation of such new equipment as the wide format black and white plotter, XL's client base continued to grow. The USSU also invested in an industrial sized paper cutter for the operation. This purchase enabled us to expand our product line to include business cards that we previously outsourced because we could not cut. We look forward to increased business in XL Design & Reproductions for 2008/09.



Freda Salikin  
USSU Operations & Facilities Manager



“Marketing Services intends to build on the successes of 2007-08.”

## USSU Marketing Services Manager’s Message

2007-08 was another fantastic year for USSU events. In conjunction with the University of Saskatchewan Centennial Celebrations, the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union was very excited to hold the reunion of former USSU Executive and Council members. Hosted at Louis’ on September 14th, the event attracted 217 former Executive members, dating back to 1937. It also witnessed the launch of *The History of the USSU*, written for the occasion, and featured former USSU President and Premier of Saskatchewan, Roy Romanow, and former USC member and University Chancellor, Tom Molloy, as the keynote speakers. This once in a lifetime event allowed the USSU to recognize the contributions they and others have made throughout various iterations of the USSU over the past hundred years.

The USSU’s reunion was held just after Welcome Week which, of course, is the primary event for engaging the maximum number of undergraduate students, and is held annually during the first week of classes. The variable weather didn’t stop thousands of students from entering the Bowl and lining up to get their *Survival Calendar*, eat, drink, play games and check out a variety of great local bands. Clearly Welcome Week has become a primary event on campus. Later in the academic year the USSU revived the USSU Independent Film Festival which was staged at Louis’ in March. We anticipate continuing this event in the upcoming year and hope to engage many more students with an early call for submissions and the development of new categories. In addition to these showcase events the USSU, through its Centres and through Executive initiatives, also hosted a number of other events – the Drag Show,

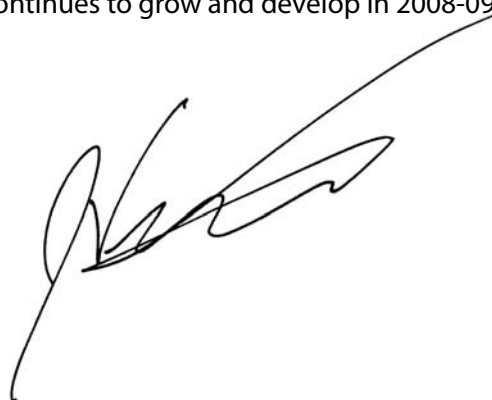
“Clearly  
Welcome  
Week has  
become a  
**primary  
event on  
campus.**”

Men, Single and Sexy, housing crisis events (including the snow hut in the Bowl), sustainability initiatives, and many other such ventures.

However, the Marketing Services Department is not just about event planning. It also has responsibility for Student Crew, Safewalk and for marketing the tables in the tunnel, the *Survival Calendar*, grille ad space, for promoting the organization and its work across campus, and now for working on development/fund raising for the renovation and expansion of Place Riel. Student Crew provides flexible employment that allows students to work on campus according to their schedule while simultaneously allowing campus groups to meet the safety requirements to hold events at which alcohol is present. Student Crew is often seen at events, poster, collecting money from Student Information Terminals, providing security and hospitality at Safe Study sessions, and in a variety of other places and roles. Safewalk was very fortunate this year in having approximately 25 volunteers, who logged over 280 walks for students, staff and faculty across campus. Volunteers are screened through an interview process and must submit to a police background check. This service contributes greatly to the personal safety of those on campus and is a service that the USSU is very proud to offer. In April, Marketing Services began some initial work on fundraising when I attended an intense workshop in Edmonton on fundraising principles and techniques.

Finally, the Marketing Services Department has responsibility for ensuring that the AGM and spring Elections for the new Executive and Senate positions go smoothly and according to the USSU's Election Bylaw. With the exception of a small issue with Senate elections, the election for the 2008-09 Executive went off without a hitch. The AGM was also a great success in November of 2007.

Marketing Services intends to build on the successes of 2007-08 as the USSU continues to grow and develop in 2008-09.



Jason Ventor  
USSU Marketing Services Manager





“[it was] a year presented with many **opportunities and challenges.**”

## USSU Communication Manager’s Message

The 2007-08 fiscal year for the USSU Communications Office was one of change and transition. Staff and managerial turnover, in addition to a period of reform aimed towards more effective and efficient means of communicating, resulted in a year of both opportunity and challenge.

In August of 2007, I assumed the position of Communications Manager from the departing Robert Martz. In October of 2007, Olivia Swerhone-Wick became the USSU’s newest Communications Assistant, a position that has since been re-titled USSU Graphics and Media Designer.

As in the past, the Communications Office provided communication support to the USSU organization as a whole, including its business operations and services. These services included promotion of marketing initiatives, event promotion, advertising, graphic design, and media relations.

Given the diverse nature of the USSU, requests for communication support are ongoing and extensive. Upon assuming the position as Communications Manager, I noted the frequency of the requests and the lack of a formalized procedure for processing each request created considerable disorganization. In November, I implemented a Communications Work Order Form procedure, not only to simplify the support request, but to help the Communications Office better track and process requests in a timely fashion.

“I undertook an overview of how the USSU communicates as a whole to its student membership”  
... ”

Organizational adaptation to the new system was initially slow to begin, but soon began to pick up pace. During the first two months that the system was implemented, the Communications Office received 15 individual orders. However, in the final four months leading up to fiscal year end, the Office received 47 individual orders, signifying greater adaptation, as well as an overall increase in requests for services.

In addition to reforming communication requests, I undertook a study of how the USSU communicates as a whole to its student membership, the U of S campus, and the general public. These findings were included in a 3-year USSU Communications Strategic Plan that was complete in March, 2008. Included in the plan were current communication practices and an identification of opportunities available to the USSU for both the short and long-term:

**Posters:**

The USSU depends heavily on posters for promotion of its events and services. There are 25 buzzboards, as well as a poster clothesline in the Place Riel Student Centre. While posterage is an important avenue for communication, it was determined that it was becoming increasingly outdated, especially for targeting the student population who are more accustomed to communication techniques such as the Internet, including social networking. We decided that the USSU will gradually phase out some (but not all) of the buzzboards located on campus - in some instances, to be replaced with plasma display units (see below).

**Plasma Display Units:**

The Communications Office continued its expansion of plasma display units to better reach Colleges and Departments on campus. During the fiscal year, units were installed in the College of Engineering, Veterinary Medicine, and beside the main stairwell in the Memorial Union Building. One of the major challenges with this year's installations was the significant time required by the University's Facilities Management Division (FMD) to install the units. The process from start to finish took approximately 8 months to complete. According to FMD, the delay was due to a large workload with which the Division was dealing due to a variety of construction projects on campus.

**Website:**

Improvements to and continuing development of the USSU website will be

imperative if the organization is to enhance future communications. It can be reasonably assumed that a majority of students use the Internet as a key source for gathering and sharing information. The Communications Office set forth an aggressive agenda that will move the organization away from its dependence on conventional means of communication (postering, general print advertising), and towards more efficient and engaging communications (Internet and video display broadcasts).

As the fiscal year drew to a close, I conducted a series of debriefing sessions with the Coordinators and Managers of the USSU's centres and operations. These sessions were primarily designed to assist Communications to identify areas that went well, as well as areas that fell short of expectations. This feedback process will play an important role in helping the USSU Communications Office to better its services to the organization as a whole, for the 2008-09 fiscal year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Bassett', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tony Bassett  
USSU Communications Manager



## USSU Excellence Awards

On March 18, 2008, the USSU again recognized excellence at the University of Saskatchewan with the 2007 Experience in Excellence Awards. The intent of the Experience in Excellence Awards is to show the Students' Union's appreciation for those individuals who strive to enhance the student experience at the University of Saskatchewan. These individuals show us that one person can make a difference and bolster the image of our students and our University, now and into the future.

### Teaching Excellence Awards

An excellent teacher not only gives access to knowledge, but also provides the tools with which to turn that knowledge into wisdom. Students evaluate teachers in a number of ways, including enthusiasm, organization, and fairness of evaluation. These factors lead to a classroom environment where students feel free to explore, critique, grow, and become leaders. The teachers recognized for the 2007-2008 academic year are:

- ▷ Professor Art Davis, Department of Biology;
- ▷ Dr. Pamela Downe, Department of Women's and Gender Studies;
- ▷ Dr. Mark Ebert, Department of Religious Studies and Anthropology;
- ▷ Assistant Professor Joel Lanovaz, College of Kinesiology;
- ▷ Dr. Richard J. Long, Edwards School of Business;
- ▷ Assistant Professor Brandy Mackintosh, Edwards School of Business;
- ▷ Dr. Scott Napper, Department of Biochemistry;
- ▷ Professor Roby Pywell, Department of Physics;
- ▷ Dr. Bonnie L. Stelmach, Department of Educational Administration; and,
- ▷ Assistant Professor Anne-Marie Wheeler, Department of Languages and Linguistics.



## **Vera Pezer Awards for Student Enhancement**

The University of Saskatchewan experience is broader than what occurs in a classroom. To be involved means to add to ourselves, our personal portfolios, and to make a difference in some way, and is manifested by students who are highly involved. These students give their time and energy to ensure that the many non-academic facets of our collective experience are enhanced. Volunteers are leaders who make much of what we do possible and, without them, student life would be greatly diminished. The winners were: Tamra Knaus for Member of Student Council, Erin Ewing for USSU Centres, Derek Chesney for Volunteerism, and the University of Saskatchewan Biology Club for Campus Group of the Year).

## **Doug Favell Staff Spirit Award**

There are many non-academic staff members who are responsible for enhancing the student experience. These people are the administrative and professional teams who greet us, and provide us with a smile, information, and expertise from year to year. The spirit that these people bring to their work improves our campus. This year the Doug Favell Memorial Staff Spirit Awards went to Amanda Mitchell for USSU Staff Member and Kelly Goyer for U of S Staff Member.

## **LGBTQA Centre Doug Wilson Award, Help Centre Award and Women's Centre Award**

Among the University of Saskatchewan faculty, staff, students and alumni there are those who show leadership and courage in advancing the quality of life for those experiencing significant struggles. These struggles may involve, but are not limited to, sexual orientation, gender, ancestry, ability, poverty and/or violence. In providing leadership, these individuals have contributed to the continuing effort for the achievement of social justice. The USSU Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Centre Doug Wilson Award went to Nicole White, the USSU Women's Centre Award to Katie Scoular, and the USSU Help Centre Award to Jessie Buydens.

## **Walter Murray Leadership Award**

There are those students who achieve more than most believe capable of one individual, thus enhancing the student experience for all who follow. They challenge the University of Saskatchewan and create a more positive environment for all. They are honored through the Walter Murray Leadership Award. This year the Walter Murray Leadership award was presented to Satoshi Shibata.



Financial Statements of

**UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
STUDENTS' UNION**

Year ended April 30, 2008



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## **AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

We have audited the statement of financial position of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union as at April 30, 2008 and the statements of operations, unrestricted surplus, equity in property and equipment and building development costs, self insurance reserve and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at April 30, 2008 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Chartered Accountants

Saskatoon, Canada  
July 25, 2008

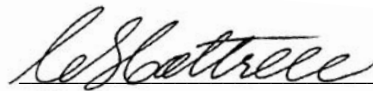
## Statement of Financial Position

April 30, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
<b>Assets:</b>		
Cash	\$ 720,447	\$ 1,032,132
Accounts receivable	306,792	179,669
Inventories (note 2)	116,262	135,467
Prepaid expenses	38,500	27,782
Short-term investments (note 3)	3,271,737	1,448,555
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>4,453,738</b>	<b>2,823,605</b>
Property and equipment (note 4)	5,044,937	5,364,099
Building development costs	23,433	41,217
Trust fund (note 5)	2,000	2,000
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 9,524,108</b>	<b>\$ 8,230,921</b>
<b>Liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 760,623	\$ 782,834
Due to the University of Saskatchewan	163,201	312,008
Deferred revenue	73,296	68,468
Current portion of obligations under capital lease (note 7)	29,235	27,977
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>1,026,355</b>	<b>1,191,287</b>
Trust liability (note 5)	2,000	2,000
Deferred contributions related to property and equipment	4,185,658	4,404,047
Deferred capital contributions (note 6)	2,305,605	1,021,629
Obligations under capital lease (note 7)	88,165	104,992
<b>Net assets:</b>		
Unrestricted surplus	\$ 1,039,480	611,660
Self insurance reserve	111,533	27,006
Equity in property and equipment and building development costs	765,312	868,300
	1,916,325	1,506,966
<b>Total liabilities and net assets</b>	<b>\$ 9,524,108</b>	<b>\$ 8,230,921</b>

*See accompanying note to financial statements.*

On behalf of the Board:



Director



Director



## Statement of Operations

Year ended April 30, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Sales	\$ 2,075,244	\$ 1,926,192
Student fees	831,928	801,325
Facilities	787,017	766,103
Amortization of deferred contributions related to property & equipment (note 6)	281,343	305,571
Marketing and media	184,768	193,585
Entertainment	93,922	162,673
Interest	32,288	72,142
Student services	26,047	36,126
Other	34,873	28,857
Self insurance fees	84,527	27,006
	<b>4,431,957</b>	<b>4,319,580</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Business operations	1,930,227	1,815,138
Administrative	702,094	716,519
Building maintenance	572,005	594,262
Amortization	457,704	495,989
Student governance	199,763	198,935
Student services	181,487	186,121
Entertainment	112,747	161,535
Marketing and media	45,441	64,489
	<b>4,201,468</b>	<b>4,232,988</b>
<b>Income before the undernoted</b>	<b>230,489</b>	<b>86,591</b>
<b>Other income (expense):</b>		
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(5,816)	(141,202)
Gain on writedown of obligation under capital lease	-	41,714
Gain on disposal of long-term investments	69,036	38,116
	63,220	(61,372)
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 293,709</b>	<b>\$ 25,220</b>

*See accompanying note to financial statements.*

## Statement of Unrestricted Surplus and Equity in Property and Equipment and Building Development Costs

April 30, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	2008	2007
<b>Unrestricted Surplus:</b>		
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 611,660	\$ 641,577
Adjustment for initial recognition of fair value of investments	115,650	-
Excess of revenue over expenses	293,709	25,220

### Allocation from (to) equity in property and equipment and building development costs:

Amortization	457,704	495,989
Purchase of property and equipment	(144,358)	(392,291)
Building development recovery (costs)	17,784	(18,447)
Proceeds on disposal of property and equipment	-	3,321
Increase in obligations under capital lease	19,823	142,049
Principal payments on obligations under capital lease	(35,392)	(52,669)
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	5,816	141,202
Amortization of deferred contributions	(281,343)	(305,571)
Gain on writedown of obligation under capital leases	-	(41,714)
Allocation to deferred contributions related to property/equipment	62,954	-
Allocation to self insurance reserve	(84,527)	(27,006)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 1,039,480</b>	<b>\$ 611,660</b>

### Equity in property and equipment and building development costs:

Balance, beginning of year	\$ 868,300	\$ 840,169
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### Allocation from (to) unrestricted surplus:

Amortization	(457,704)	(495,989)
Purchase of property and equipment	144,358	392,291
Proceeds on disposal of property and equipment	-	(3,321)
Increase in obligations under capital lease	(19,823)	(142,049)
Principal payments on obligations under capital lease	35,392	52,669
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(5,816)	(141,202)
Amortization of deferred contributions	281,343	305,571
Gain on writedown of obligation under capital leases	-	41,714
Purchase of building development costs (recovery)	(17,784)	18,447
Allocation to deferred contributions related to property/equipment	(62,954)	-
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 765,312</b>	<b>868,300</b>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



## Statement of Self Insurance Reserve

Year ended April 30, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 27,006	-
Allocation from unrestricted surplus	84,527	27,006
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>111,533</b>	<b>27,006</b>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended April 30, 2008, with comparative figures for 2007

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>Cash flows from (used in) operations:</b>		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 293,709	\$ 25,220
<b>Items not involving cash:</b>		
Amortization	457,704	495,989
Amortization of deferred contributions	(281,343)	(305,571)
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	5,816	141,202
Gain on disposal of long-term investments	(69,036)	(38,116)
Gain on writedown of obligation under capital lease	-	(41,714)
<b>Change in non-cash operating working capital:</b>		
Accounts receivable	(127,123)	(22,762)
Inventories	19,205	(10,525)
Prepaid expenses	(10,718)	19,766
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(22,211)	(80,643)
Deferred revenue	4,828	(30,363)
Due to the University of Saskatchewan	(148,807)	(262,422)
	<b>122,024</b>	<b>(109,939)</b>
<b>Cash flows from (used in) financing:</b>		
Principal payments on obligations under capital lease	(35,392)	(52,669)
Increase in obligations under capital lease	19,823	142,049
Deferred capital contributions	1,346,930	679,097
	<b>1,331,361</b>	<b>768,477</b>
<b>Cash flows from (used in) investing:</b>		
Purchase of property and equipment	(144,358)	(392,291)
Recovery (purchase) of building development costs	17,784	(18,447)
Purchase of investments	(5,442,251)	(3,731,322)
Proceeds on disposal of investments	3,803,755	4,043,869
Proceeds on disposal of property and equipment	-	3,321
	<b>(1,765,070)</b>	<b>(94,870)</b>
Increase (decrease) in cash	(311,685)	563,668
Cash, beginning of year	1,032,132	468,464
<b>Cash, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 720,447</b>	<b>\$ 1,032,132</b>

*See accompanying notes to financial statements.*

# Notes to Financial Statements

**Year ended April 30, 2008**

## **General:**

The University of Saskatchewan Students' Union ("USSU") is responsible for the governing of undergraduate student affairs at the University of Saskatchewan. The USSU is a dynamic and progressive organization committed to meeting the academic and non-academic needs of undergraduate students through advocacy and services. It strives to lead consultatively and ethically while bolstering the image of the students and the University of Saskatchewan.

## **1. Significant accounting policies:**

(a) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

(b) Cash:

Cash consists of balances with financial institutions which have an initial term to maturity of three months or less.

(c) Inventories:

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

(d) Property and equipment:

Property and equipment are stated at cost. Amortization is provided using the following method and annual rates:

<b>Asset</b>	<b>Method</b>	<b>Rate</b>
Equipment	Declining Balance	15-30%
Furniture & fixtures	Declining Balance	15-20%
Leasehold improvements	Declining Balance	5-20%

Deferred contributions related to property and equipment are amortized to revenue in the statement of operations on the same basis that the related property and equipment is amortized.

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

(e) Revenue recognition:

Revenue is recorded in the statement of operations when the services have been provided and the related amounts have been received or become receivable.

(f) Deferred revenue:

Deferred revenue relates to funds received which relate to the next fiscal year.

(g) Deferred capital contributions:

Deferred capital contributions represent funds received primarily from infrastructure fees. Amounts received are deferred and transferred to deferred contributions related to property and equipment when the funds are used to purchase assets.

(h) Contributed materials and services:

The USSU pays a nominal fee to the University of Saskatchewan under the terms of a Head Lease and Master Operating Agreement for the rental of certain facilities. The fair value of this contribution is not included in these financial statements.

(i) Building development costs:

Costs incurred on building projects which are not available for use are not amortized until such time that the asset becomes available for use, at which time they will be transferred to property and equipment.

(j) Investments:

On May 1, 2007, the organization adopted accounting policies issued by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants relating to financial instruments. Under the new standards, all financial assets must be classified as one of the following: held-to-maturity, loans and receivables, held for trading or available for sale. All investments held by the organization are classified as held for trading and are measured at fair value with gains and losses recognized in income.

At May 1, 2007, a transitional adjustment of \$115,650 was made to Unrestricted Surplus to adjust investments to their fair value.

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended April 30, 2008

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
<b>2. Inventories:</b>		
Louis'	\$ 55,828	\$ 67,409
Copy Central	10,184	13,253
Photocopy	13,464	9,240
Browsers	8,213	10,087
Promotional merchandise	9,322	4,832
Information Centre	19,251	30,646
	<b>\$ 116,262</b>	<b>\$ 135,467</b>

	<b>Market 2008</b>	<b>Cost 2007</b>
<b>3. Short-term investments:</b>		
Mutual funds (money market)	2,578,179	29,660
Mutual funds (other)	330,576	170,102
Royal Bank, Bankers Acceptance, due June 11, 2008	199,295	-
Bank of Montreal, Cashable Guaranteed Investment Certificate 4.1%, due May 28, 2008	163,687	-
Government of Canada bond, 4.000%, due May 17, 2007	-	299,822
Royal Bank, Bankers Acceptance, 4.206%, due August 7, 2007	-	299,513
Royal Bank, Bankers Acceptance, 4.030%, due June 22, 2007	-	199,758
TD Mortgage Corporation, Guaranteed Investment Certificate, 4.250%, due July 18, 2007	-	100,000
Bank of Montreal, Guaranteed Investment Certificate, 3.750%, due September 3, 2007	-	100,000
Government of Canada bond, 3.899%, due June 14, 2007	-	99,700
Royal Bank, Guaranteed Investment Certificate, 3.700%, due May 28, 2007	-	75,000
Bank of Montreal, Guaranteed Investment Certificate, 3.750%, due May 28, 2007	-	75,000
	<b>\$ 3,271,737</b>	<b>\$ 1,448,555</b>

Prior to May 1, 2007, investments were recorded at amortized cost. The market value of investments at April 30, 2007 was \$1,564,205.

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended April 30, 2008

### 4. Property and equipment

	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Accumulated amortization</b>	<b>2008 Net book Value</b>	<b>2007 Net book Value</b>
Leased equipment	\$ 155,780	58,240	97,540	120,997
Equipment	1,925,151	1,180,489	744,662	814,494
Furniture and fixtures	424,045	280,807	143,238	163,696
Leasehold improvements	5,880,675	1,821,178	4,059,497	4,264,912
	<b>\$ 8,385,651</b>	<b>3,340,714</b>	<b>5,044,937</b>	<b>5,364,099</b>

### 5. Trust fund:

The Memorial Board Trust Fund consists of a \$2,000 base investment which reverts to the donor upon demand. Interest earned on this investment is required to be paid to the outgoing USSU president annually.

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,000	2,000
Interest	56	30
	\$ 2,056	2,030
Payment to USSU past president	(56)	(30)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>



## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended April 30, 2008

### 6. Deferred capital contributions:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 1,021,629	342,532
<b>Contributions from USSU Trust Funds</b>		
Infrastructure fees	\$ 1,346,930	679,097
Other	30,000	30,000
	1,376,930	709,097
<b>Uses during the year:</b>		
Funds used to acquire property and equipment	(62,954)	-
Other	(30,000)	(30,000)
	(92,954)	(30,000)
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,305,605</b>	<b>1,021,629</b>

The USSU co-manages, with the University of Saskatchewan, the Campus Centre Trust Fund and the Students' Union Building Trust Fund. The investment of these funds is administered by the University of Saskatchewan in keeping with and under the University's investment guidelines. The purpose of the funds is to provide a source of funding for capital expenditures (equipment purchases, building renovations or building construction), extraordinary operating expenses and special projects. A balance of \$21,385 (2007 - \$112,940) is held in the Campus Centre Trust Fund.

## Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended April 30, 2008.

### 7. Obligations under capital lease:

The USSU leases equipment that may be purchased on expiration of the lease. The related equipment has been accounted for as capital leases.

Future minimum lease payments by year and in aggregate, under capital leases are as follows:

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
2008	\$ -	\$ 31,888
2009	33,764	34,717
2010	38,508	33,382
2011	29,440	25,069
2012	23,361	18,235
2013	3,225	-
Total minimum lease payments	128,298	143,291
Less amount representing interest	10,898	10,322
Present value of net minimum capital lease payments	117,400	132,969
Current portion of obligations under capital lease	29,235	27,977
	\$ 88,165	\$ 104,992

### 8. Financial instruments:

The carrying value of accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, trust liability and due to the University of Saskatchewan approximate fair value due to the relatively short periods to maturity of these instruments.

The carrying value of obligations under capital lease approximate fair value due to the fact that interest rates charged on the capital lease approximate market interest rates.

### 9. Comparative figures:

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the financial statement presentation adopted in the current year.

## USSU Fees

USSU fees are used to fund a variety of Students' Union initiatives and services. For more details about the USSU's governing structure and services, please visit the USSU website at [www.ussu.ca](http://www.ussu.ca). The type of fees, including the amount contributed by each student per year, are listed below:

### Full-Time On Campus Undergraduate Students

Students' Union. ....	\$53.52
World University Service of Canada (WUSC).....	\$3.00
Health and Dental Plan .....	\$243.25
Student Infrastructure Fee .....	\$88.00
U-Pass .....	\$118.00

### Part-Time On Campus Undergraduate Students

Students' Union .....	\$26.76
World University Service of Canada (WUSC) .....	\$3.00
Student Infrastructure Fee .....	\$44.00
U-Pass .....	\$118.00

### Off-Campus and Audit Only Students

Students' Union .....	\$26.76
Student Services Fee .....	\$15.00
Student Infrastructure Fee .....	\$44.00

### USSU Student Fee Details

#### *Students' Union*

The Student' Union fee is used to fund advocacy work and services.

#### *World University Service of Canada (WUSC)*

The WUSC levy of \$3.00 is used to help sponsor up to three refugee students to attend the University of Saskatchewan for one academic year.

#### *Health and Dental Plan*

The USSU Health & Dental Plan provides a comprehensive package of health, dental, vision and travel benefits to fill the gaps left by provincial Medicare and a parent or spouse's plan (please go to USSU Services section in this guide for more information about what is offered by this Plan).

# 2007-08 Directory

## 2007-08 Executive Council

**President:** James Pepler  
**VP Operations & Finance:** Jeremy Ring  
**VP Academic Affairs:** Josie Steeves  
**VP External Affairs:** Nicole Kenney  
**VP Student Issues:** Lindsey Levesque

## University Students' Council

**Chair:** Matt Leisle  
**Agriculture:** Jean-Paul Cote  
**Arts & Science:** Sheila Laroque  
**Arts & Science:** Tyler Olson  
**Associated Residence Committee:** Warren Kirkland  
**Commerce:** Alex Mitchell,  
**Commerce:** Katelyn McAuliffe  
**Dentistry:** Adam Abdulla  
**Education:** Breanne Gentner  
**Education:** Elvis Kambeitz  
**Engineering:** Michael Atkin  
**Engineering:** Keith Kuspira  
**Indigenous Students' Council:** Dylan Rose  
**International Students' Association:** Satoshi Shibata  
**Kinesiology:** Jim Lawrence  
**Law:** Neil Karkut  
**Medicine:** Nick Peti  
**Nursing:** Megan Harder  
**Pharmacy & Nutrition:** Kimberly Zubot  
**Physical Therapy:** Karla Horvey  
**St. Thomas More:** Tamra Knaus  
**St. Thomas More:** Ellyse Schultz  
**WCVM:** Jessica Wales

## USSU Administration

**General Manager:** Caroline Contrell  
**Facilities & Operations Manager:** Freda Salikin  
**Human Resources Manager:** Amy Yeager, Caroline Cottrell  
**Marketing Services Manager:** Jason Ventnor  
**Communications Manager:** Rob Martz, Tony Bassett  
**Controller:** Amanda Mitchell  
**Accounting Assistant:** Peggy Pfeil  
**Confidential Secretary:** Kendra Wilkie  
**Receptionist:** Teri-Lyn Lenz  
**Head Janitor:** Mario Carmona  
**Graphic & Media Designer:** Christian Cortez, Olivia Swerhone-Wick  
**Academic Affairs Officer:** Drew Dwernychuk, Brett Suwinski

## USSU Operations

**Browsers:** Amanda Borycki, Lyndon MacNeil  
**Copy Central:** Len Derksen  
**Information Centre:** Stefanie Livingston, Poonam Rani  
**Louis':** Jason Kovitch, George Foufas, Norman Parchman, Nick Graham, Dominique Taillon  
**XL Design & Reproductions:** Avril Arthur

**Food Centre:** Laurie Johnson  
**Help Centre:** Bill Bewer  
**Pride Centre:** Clara Lavery  
**Safewalk / Student Crew:** Blair Pisiso  
**Victim Advocate:** Joanne Horsley  
**Women's Centre:** Ferron Olynyk

# 2007-08 Directory

## Affiliated Clubs

African Students Association  
Agricultural Students' Association  
AIESEC Saskatoon  
Amnesty International University of Saskatchewan  
Anatomy and Cell Biology Student Society  
APALA  
Arts & Science Students' Union (ASSU)  
Associated Residence Committee (ARC)  
Best Buddies U of S  
Biochemistry Students Association  
Campus for Christ and Athletes in Action  
Campus Green Party  
Catholic Christian Outreach  
Cercle Francais  
Chemistry Students Society  
Chinese Students' and Scholars' Association (CSSA)  
Education Students' Society (ESS)  
Edwards Business Students' Society  
Engineers Without Borders  
Environmental Studies Students Association  
Frontier College Saskatoon  
Golden Key International Honour Society  
History Undergraduate Students Association  
Huskie Cheerleading  
IEEE Illumination  
Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship  
International Studies Student Association  
Jewish Students Association  
Law Students Association  
Lutheran Student Movement  
Microbiology and Immunology Students Association  
Muslim Students Association  
Ore Gange  
Orthodox Christian Fellowship  
Oxfam Canada  
Political Studies and Public Administration Students Society (PASS)  
Pre-Med Club  
Rights & Democracy Network  
Room For Improvement Youth Development Inc.  
Rooted  
Saskatchewan Dental Student Society  
Saskatchewan Party Campus Club  
Saskatchewan Pharmacy & Nutrition Students' Society  
Saskatoon Engineering Students' Society  
Saskatoon Psychology Students' Society  
Sheptytsky Institute Student Rep Council  
Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS)  
Student Wellness Initiative Toward Community  
SUNTEP SRC

The UofS Punjabi Students Association  
Toxicology Students Society (TOSS)  
Transition Group  
U of S SADD  
U of S Ladies Softball  
U of S Liberal Campus Club  
U of S Pre-Vet Club  
University of Saskatchewan Biology Club  
University of Saskatchewan Campus Conservatives  
University of Saskatchewan Debate Society  
University of Saskatchewan Horticulture Club  
University of Saskatchewan Students for Life  
University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students Association  
University of Saskatchewan Young New Democrats  
Visual Arts Students' Union  
Western Canadian Veterinary Students Association

## Affiliated Associations

Agricultural Students Association  
Associated Residence Committee  
Law Students Association of the U of S  
Physical Therapy Students Society  
Saskatchewan Dental Students Society  
Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Student Society  
Saskatoon Commerce Students Society  
Saskatoon Engineering Students Society  
Saskatoon Nursing Student Society  
Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan







**University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**  
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