

University of Saskatchewan Students' Union

Annual Report

2005-2006



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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GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE



On February 6th, 2006 I assumed my position as General Manager of the USSU, taking over from Acting General Manager Freda Salikin who returned to her role as the Facilities and Operations Manager. In writing this report I first want to express my deep gratitude to the USSU executive and staff for making the transition such a smooth and enjoyable one.

What I have discovered in the past couple of months is that the USSU is a dynamic and thriving organization. In our business operations we have been very successful in generating the revenues necessary to support other endeavours. Louis' and Browers continue to show strength, as do Copy Central, XL Reproductions and the Information Centre. Moreover, all the available lease space in Place Riel is occupied and there is always significant demand when space opens up. The revenue generated from space leasing also enables us to provide services to students.

In offering a wide array of excellent services to all undergraduate students the USSU of 2005-06 continues in the long Students' Union tradition of providing mechanisms for empowerment. These services include support for undergraduates through the Help, Women's, LGBTA, Food and the Information Centres as well as the Copy Centre, the Safewalk Program, Health and Dental Benefits and partnership with the university to provide the Safe Study Program.

As important as the internal services are, the external lobbying of the 2005-06 executive – Gavin Gardiner, President, Evan Cole, VP Academic Affairs, Michael Kowalsky, VP External Affairs, Brett Campbell, VP Operations and Finance, Sarah Connor, VP Student Issues –has resulted in a tuition freeze for 2006-07 and a promise from the provincial government for a further freeze in 2007-08. The Executive was also actively involved in both the national Canadian Federation of Students and its Saskatchewan branch.

As the General Manager I have responsibility for all the affairs of the USSU and for enabling the executive to carry out its work. This also involves acting as a resource when called upon for the University Students' Council. I attend their Thursday meetings and, in concert with other staff, ensure that councilors have the materials and information they need to do their work of representing students and making decisions on their behalf.

I have also had the privilege since February 6th to represent the USSU on a number of external boards. As a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors I have attended several graduation and awards banquets. I sit on the USSU Daycare Board and on the Joint Liaison Committee to deal with common USSU/U of S facilities issues. I chair the WUSC committee and sit in, as requested, on the various USSU boards. These, and a number of other commitments, allow me to forward USSU interests in a broad framework.

In addition to the regular day-to-day activities of the USSU, the organization also takes time to celebrate. Each spring, following the USSU elections, the VP Academic Affairs announces the results for the Experience in Excellence Awards that recognizes the ten top professors, as determined by their students. These individuals, along with a variety of USSU and University of Saskatchewan staff, are then feted at gala event. We also take time in the spring to recognize long-service employees and to say farewell to our out-going executive before welcoming the new one.

In short, the past few months have been active, challenging, and exciting. I have enormous confidence in the USSU's vision and in our collective ability to achieve our goals as well as maintain our mission to be the recognized leader in enhancing the student experience.

Regards
Caroline Cottrell

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



It is again my honour to present to you the USSU Annual Report. Last year, was a time of both change and accomplishment. The 2005/06 year was no different. The successes for the year fall into three areas: accountability, sustainability and responsibility. Many steps were taken to increase the accountability of the USSU to all students on campus. The University Students' Council met once a month during the summer, a decision that extended accountability year round. USC was also larger with a representative from International Students and a fifth executive position, Vice-President External Affairs added to the council. Additionally, the role of the Board of College Presidents was expanded to ensure maximum student input to the USSU.

Steps were also taken in the past year to make the USSU a more financially sustainable organization. The restructuring of positions and operations resulted in tens of thousands of dollars annually being available for the organization to balance its budget and invest in new services for students. USC also decided to leave the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, a decision which saved the USSU over \$50,000 annually. Most importantly the Executive Committee hired a new General Manager, Caroline Cottrell, to ensure that the organization will be well managed.

Finally the USSU in the past year has focused on responsibility. Internally, the USSU accepted responsibility for its own operations, and the larger footprint left by students, by establishing a Sustainability Board, hiring a Sustainability Auditor summer student and passing a Sustainability Policy unparalleled in Canada. The USSU also ensured that different levels of government were held responsible for their inaction on student issues. In October a referendum was held on membership in the Canadian Federation of Students to unite U of S students with half a million

others across the country, including all university students in Saskatchewan. While controversy followed its passage, the USSU was able to work through the CFS with the University of Regina Students' Union to launch an strong campaign which led the Government of Saskatchewan to freeze tuition fees until the fall of 2008.

The hard work of the 2005/06 Executive Committee, USSU staff and council members has ensured that the USSU is more accountable, sustainable and responsible than ever before.

Collegially
Gavin Gardiner

Sustainability

The USSU's long-standing commitment to sustainability was formalized this year with the creation of a permanent Sustainability Board and a related policy to guide the operations of the USSU. The value statement of the USSU lists social, economic, and environmental responsibility as core values that guide the USSU and this commitment to sustainability, while adhering to these values, will also promote a culture of global responsibility to the campus community through leading by example.

Among other things this policy pledges the USSU to purchase products that are ethically produced, integrate procedures throughout operations and centres that eliminate unnecessary waste or consumption, use environmentally friendly cleaning supplies, and only accept sponsorship money from companies whose business practices are ethical and who pay their employees a living wage. The Sustainability Policy was adopted at the March 30 USC meeting and a sustainability audit was conducted during the summer of 06.

Environment Week March 30 - April 1

Check out the displays and booths in the tunnel and take part in these special events.

Thursday March 31

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bike Tune-Ups in Upper Place Riel
presented by



Friday April 1 *Fossil Fools Day*

7 p.m. Movie Night in Place Riel Theatre
with speaker Heather Milton Lightning
from the Indigenous Environmental Network



Oil on Ice
and
The End of
Suburbia



Mobilization for
Global Justice



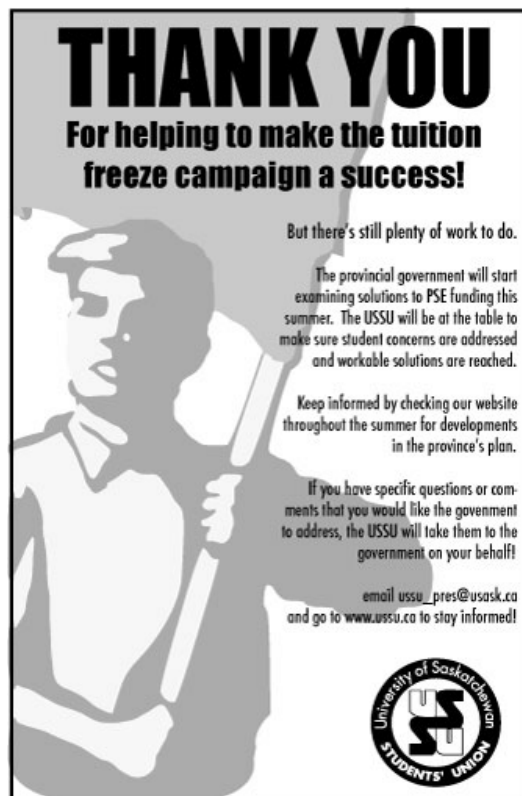
Canadian Federation of Students

This past year saw the USSU and the students of the University of Saskatchewan join the Canadian Federation of Students. Membership in this group made the USSU part of an active lobbying organization on behalf of students with influence at both the federal and provincial levels of government.

A referendum for all students of the University of Saskatchewan occurred from October 4-6, 2005. Student participation was solid with 3562 votes cast. The final results were 1968 Yes votes (55.25%) and 1584 No votes (44.47%) with 10 ballots spoiled. The results of the vote led to the USSU being accepted as full members of the CFS, although the Elections Board chose not to ratify the results, the results were ratified by a meeting of the USC on March 30. The CFS has shown itself to be an effective lobbying group for students issues and have been important in securing tuition freezes across the country.

Tuition Freeze

For the second year in a row the USSU was instrumental in securing a freeze on undergraduate tuition from the provincial government. Michael Kowalsky, elected to the newly created position of Vice President External, led this year's campaign, which consisted of securing a tuition freeze until 2008, using new federal money to reduce tuition, and help secure universal access. Other initiatives related to the tuition freeze campaign included establishing a Saskatchewan grant program to reduce the reliance on student loans, eliminating the Millenium Scholarship Foundation, and opposing Income Contingent Repayment. Furthermore, we continued our advocacy on behalf of students by encouraging the U of S to prioritize teaching with an improved tenured professor complement, smaller class sizes, and balancing the research agenda.



Louis'

This past year has seen a number of improvements at Louis' and its continued development not only as a campus destination, but as a venue for events from outside the campus community.

2005 summer highlights included a full slate of teams (over 130) participating in another year of elite beach volleyball. The volleyball courts were upgraded with the replacement of the two small sheds by a modified "Garage-style" facility. This provided an increase in service space and allowed a larger selection of products for our customers. The new facility made its debut in the summer of 2005 and looks to be a cornerstone in furthering the growth of the Louis' Beach Volleyball League.

After a period of expert preparation and promotion, Louis' made a successful leap into the wedding industry in 2005. With both the modern feel of the main facility and the classic outdoor look of the patio, Louis' has the versatility to cater to all tastes. The combination of Louis' experienced catering staff and the modern facility provided a summer of matrimony and success.

Louis' kicked off the school year with a bang by providing the entertainment and beer garden in the bowl during Welcome Week. Fantastic weather led to record sales during the week. September also saw Louis' and the USSU host Coco Loco at Prairieland Exhibition. The beach themed event drew over 3400 attendees, making it the must attend event the first week of school. The USSU has purchased the rights to Coco Loco and plans are already underway for Coco Loco 2006.

For 2005-06, Louis' was the destination for nightlife on campus. 'Wing Nights' provided students with an popular way to cap off a night of classes. This year also saw the return of our "Stress Management" promotion. With this promotion, Louis' firmly established itself as the place to be on Wednesday nights. Student support of this program led to an extension of "Stress Management" Monday through Friday over the supper hour. This, combined with the incredible variety of live entertainment and programming, offered at the end of most weeks ensured a steady stream of customers throughout the week.

We continue to offer a diverse line-up of entertainment to our clientele. Ticket revenues and concert attendance hit record highs, with over 80 bands playing on the Louis' stage this past year. Highlights included: Stars, Bedouin Sound-clash, Matt Good, Corb Lund, Buck 65, Metric, and Feist.

Louis' also remains committed to its relationship with Huskie athletics and hosted numerous events during the school year as well as running the beer garden operations at Huskie football games.

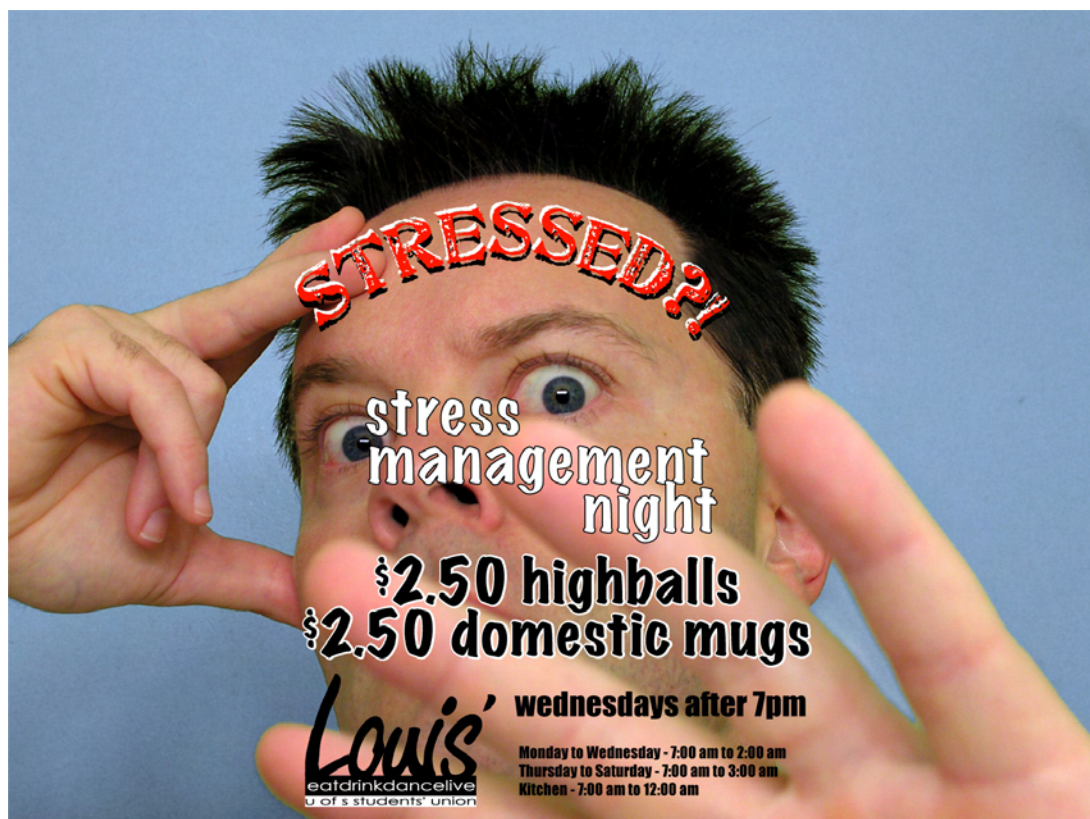
SERVICES

The Louis' food menu provided patrons with fresh and diverse lunch options that solidified Louis' as a very popular noon hour destination on campus. Daily lunch specials offered customers an array of options that ranged from regional favorites to European and Asian cuisine. Louis' on and off-site catering continued to grow in 2005-06. Evening dinners, banquets, Christmas parties, anniversaries, and birthday parties continue to utilize the diverse and quality cuisine from the Louis' kitchen.

Louis' also took up the supervision and operation of the food and beverage service in Browsers. Changes included making the Starbucks brand more visible and implementing a menu that allowed customers to choose from a variety of menu items, which were ordered and made fresh in Louis'.

Louis' also provided off-site services across campus. Whether delivering one of our exceptional catered meals, or providing the beverage services for Welcome Week and Huskie football games, the Louis' brand extends beyond the boundaries of the MUB building in many different ways.

The Louis' brand continues to grow as it writes new and exciting chapters in the USSU history of serving the undergraduate and campus community. Continuing diversity in operations is leading Louis' to many new success stories each and every year.



Browsers

The 2005-06 year marks the fifth year for Browsers in the Upper MUB. This past year has seen an expansion of services and the continuation of efforts to provide a unique space on campus for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

Located on the second floor of the historic Memorial Union Building, Browsers offers specialty coffees, teas and Italian sodas and a bistro style food menu, as well as providing a venue for consignment book sales. These menu items are ordered, prepared and delivered fresh from Louis' kitchen located two floors away. Browsers has also seen an increase in bookings for many small sized, after hours functions. These are booked through and catered by Louis'. During the fall and winter school terms, Browsers has a student staff compliment of 12. Through the summer months, the staff compliment is cut in half as the hours are also reduced, but Browsers remains open for coffee throughout the day.

This past year additional tables, chairs and soft seating were purchased for Browsers increasing capacity from 25 spaces to approximately 55. Partly due to a number of top selling textbooks changing editions and new competition, including used textbook websites, Browsers has seen a decline in book sales this past year. However, changes are underway to boost consignment sales. The Browsers Bookshelf page was implemented on our website and lists all books that have been consigned. It continues to be popular as it provides immediate access and updates automatically about every 10 minutes. We monitor this page to make sure it has all pertinent textbook information available as quickly as possible.

Recognizing it is slower to consign textbooks than just drop them off and pick up cash, we added a laptop computer to our consignment table in Upper Place Riel thereby cutting processing time in half. This also allows a newly consigned book to be on the shelf in Browsers the same day it is brought in. Browsers is also operating a direct deposit payback system. This allows students to get their money the day after their material is sold rather than waiting for a cheque to be issued at the end of each month.

At present Browsers is discussing with the Departments of Fine Art, Music and English the possibility of using Browsers space to showcase student work.

Copy Central

This past year witnessed a significant reworking of the role of Copy Central with the closure of the Lower Place Riel locations and the reassignment of the resources that had occupied that space.

With the closure of Copy Central in Lower Place Riel in April 2005, the Copy Central location in the Murray Building saw a large increase in traffic. Much of this traffic involved the leased Xerox Pro machine, which was moved to the Murray Building.

Copy Central staff includes 1 full-time technician and 2 part-time student staff and we currently lease and operate 43 copiers located in colleges and libraries across campus. The agreement covering the existing 43 copy machines was renegotiated and the balance of the lease was transferred to WBM Office Systems. The USSU has signed a five-year agreement with them and they have been doing an excellent job of rotating the machines, keeping them in good repair and adding to the fleet.

As technology changes Copy Central will keep pace in order to offer students the best, most accessible, and most affordable copying services possible.

Facilities

2005/06 was a busy year for the Students' Union as it streamlined operations and the use of space.

The Print Shop, also known as Copy Central, closed its doors at the end of April, 2005. In what was mainly a financial decision. The University assisted us in the closure by purchasing our paper stock and some of the equipment. Three pieces of equipment were retained and reassigned. The Plotter and color copier were transferred to XL Designs and Reproduction and the Xerox Pro photocopier was moved to Copy Central on the 2nd floor of the Murray Library. The Students' Union still provides photocopying at that location, as well as at coin-op and copy card machines located throughout the University.

The space that housed Copy Central in Lower Place Riel was then converted by the Campus Computer Store into their retail outlet. They maintained their original space on the main level of Place Riel for stock and storage. Their new space is a great fit for the Student Centre and its mandate to provide non-academic services.

Louis' revised their operation at the Beach Volleyball courts. Two small 'sheds' were replaced by one larger shed that now doubles as storage for both the volleyball league and the food and beverage operation at the courts.

Work continued on the 25KV loop electrical project. This project was started a number of years ago and we are now projecting completion in 2006. This project will provide additional power to the Student Centre giving tenants and students the ability to provide or expand their services without worrying about electrical overload. This is crucial to the Students' Union in that everything we are doing is restricted by the limited availability of power, especially as it relates to our renovations and expansion.

At the end of August, the Coffee Emporium in Upper Place Riel closed their doors. The owner had previously sold his Treats location in Lower Place Riel and was not interested in staying until the end of his lease term in February. The space does not have venting for grills and fryers, so uses were limited. The Students' Union contemplated having Louis' operate an 'express' food and beverage outlet that would sell prepared 'trendy' take-away items such as sushi. After much thought and discussion, we felt that adding another food & beverage operation would be too taxing on Louis' as they had already taken over the food and beverage operation in Browsers, not to mention the associated capital costs and staffing issues. Dairy Queen showed interest in the space for an ice cream only venue,

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but, after further investigation from their corporate office, they declined the space. The Crepe Factory then stepped in which fit well with our needs. It did not compete with any food product currently offered by the University's food services, Louis' or other tenants in the Student Centre and the price point was affordable to the students. A few renovations later and the Crepe Factory opened its doors. The business is doing well.

The Games Room also completed the 2nd phase of their food and beverage area with Jugo Juice opening at the end of August, 2005. This had been in the plans for well over a year, but power restrictions limited their ability to operate. This was overcome by the removal of some of the games in the Games Room. Jugo Juice and Extreme Pita are now working well together with the Games Room offerings. This outlet also has a Chai Tea concession that is popular with the students.

Lower Place Riel also became home to Global Commons. This space changed over from Student Affairs & Services. The University did aesthetic improvements in the form of upgraded carpet and new paint to the front area. New furniture was purchased and installed and the space is available for use by all international students. It is a positive change and again fits with the non-academic mandate of the Student Centre.

The Students' Union has continued to work with University staff and Saunders Evans Architects on renovation plans. The most feasible plan that the University proposed for the Students' Union involved taking over the main floor (and perhaps the 2nd floor) of the Qu'Appelle Hall addition. The renovation plans are currently at a standstill while the University attempts to find space for the current occupants of the Qu'Appelle Hall addition and to come to an agreement with the Students' Union to take over the space. Saunders Evans has also done work with for University on residences relocation/addition, Marquis Hall and the Bookstore, which could be incorporated into this project as well.

Our Joint Liaison meeting was held on April 5, 2006. Since most committee members were new, a view of what should transpire at the meeting was given. Part of the mandate for this meeting is contained in the Head Lease as follows: "The Students' Union and the University may consult through the Joint Liaison Committee on matters affecting the physical status of common areas or involving shared expenses". At the meeting, the USSU's 2006/07 operating and capital budgets were circulated, as was the 2004/05 audited financial statement. All in all, it was good to touch base with some of the University Administrative staff and VP's on things the Students' Union is working on including renovations and how the Students' Union should continue to progress on this project.

XL Designs & Reproduction

On May 15, 2005, XL Design and Reproductions officially opened its doors in the southeast corner of Browsers replacing the Copy Center. Efforts were made to preserve former Copy Central clients while making new clients aware of the location and services.

September witnessed two important projects involving the re-opening of the College Building with the creation of two large banners flanking either side of the main entrance of the College building for the grand re-opening. XL Designs & Reproductions also reproduced small historical pictures for inside the college building for the official tours that took place. Other important projects included the preparation of a large number of signs for the fans in the stands during Huskie games and banners for the Vanier Cup.

Comments on the new location, (inside Browsers) were very positive and new and returning customers were impressed with the speed of service. The sharing of space with Browsers was constructive as it increased walk-in traffic and awareness of XL Designs & Reproduction. Photo gloss was one of the new products added for the plotter work. It was added in March and became popular with clients producing conference presentations.

Overall, we ended the 2005/06 fiscal year with better than expected success and this will lead to continued success in 2006 – 2007.

SAFEWALK/Student Crew

This year has seen changes to the administration of the Safewalk and Student Crew programs. Effective May 1st, 2005, the Volunteer Centre, former home of Safewalk and Student Crew, was closed and volunteers were housed in their respective centres while the administration of Safewalk and Student Crew was moved to the USSU Main Office.

Student Crew has flourished this past year exceeding projected revenues. This group of students could be seen at events, posterizing, collecting money from Student Information Terminals, providing security and hospitality at Safe Study sessions, and in a variety of other places and roles.

This past year the Student Crew and Safewalk Director began providing university-wide Server Intervention Courses. In the past year, over 230 people have taken the Server Intervention Course making many students aware of the need for safe service of alcohol on the University of Saskatchewan campus and at all student events.

Safewalk had approximately 25 volunteers, who logged over 250 Safewalks for students, staff and faculty. 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.

For the 2006-07 school year, the programs will be split to improve the effectiveness of the Safewalk and Student Crew services. A Safewalk Director will look after that program to expand and enhance it; while a Student Crew director will ensure that the program continues to thrive and provides a quality service for the university community and meaningful employment for students, as well as providing the Server Intervention Course.

Food Centre

The USSU Food Centre is in its fourth year of operation and is committed to providing food and other services to students in need.

The Food Centre is located in the Lower Saskatchewan Hall building and employs one part time attendant. The position was created to aid with the increased demand for services and assist in increasing awareness of the program with the student population.

In partnership with the Saskatoon Food Bank, the USSU Food Centre provides food hampers for students in financial need. Over 260 hampers have been handed out since the inception of the centre in 2002-2003. For the third year in a row, the Food Centre organized the highly successful Trick-or-Eat campaign to benefit the Saskatoon Food Bank. Approximately 130 students volunteered their time on the evening of Halloween to canvass door-to-door collecting non-perishable food items. In the short period of four hours, the volunteers collected 5587 pounds of food and \$1000 in donations.

This year the Food Centre continued to provide the Good Food Box program to students. Run through the Child Hunger and Education Program (CHEP), Good Food Boxes bring quality, affordable fruits and vegetables to students. During the past academic year, the Food Centre delivered 156 boxes to students and staff on campus.

During the Christmas season, the Food Centre adopted a family through the “Brent and Penney Adopt-a-Family” Christmas campaign for the second year in a row. Through donations from University students and staff the family, of one mother and six children, received \$400 worth of Christmas gifts and \$200 worth of food.

A new initiative was implemented by the Food Centre to make lightly used clothing available to students in need. The clothing is donated by students and staff and is displayed in the Food Centre, making it available to all who access the centre.

The Centre will continue to organize and offer these services throughout the 2006-07 academic year.

Help Centre

The USSU Help Centre is located in the tunnel connecting the Arts Building with Place Riel, between the vending machines and the computer bank. The Help Centre provides both general assistance and peer support. It offers a free phone, newspaper, condoms, candy and the use of office supplies among other valuable services. This year, we also began a Call-In peer support service.

We have approximately 40 volunteers who are trained in many different areas. Our front line volunteers are trained in areas including customer service and student loans issues. Our peer supporters are trained in active listening, suicide intervention, pregnancy crisis and sexual assault response. This specialized training is conducted at the beginning of the year at the Annual Volunteer Orientation and supplemental training is held throughout the year. The orientation provides training to volunteers at all the USSU centres. Due to their wide variety of training our volunteers are able to provide extensive aid to clients who access our services.

Between April 2005 and April 2006 we served over 10,000 students with our entire range of services. The ever-increasing usage of the Help Centre may be attributed to our increased involvement in the university community. The Help Centre maintained a visible presence at Orientation and in the bowl during Welcome Week, as well as being open long hours throughout the year. Finally, the Help Centre increased awareness of our peer support services by hosting Suicide Awareness Week, which included providing handouts in the tunnel and a 'Suicide Talk' with Dave Biblow.

The past year has been a great one for the Help Centre. Student walk-ins are increasing as the Help Centre becomes better known across campus. Volunteer participation was also incredible this past year. We have a base of very loyal, dedicated volunteers who have been with the Help Centre for several years and make volunteering a very positive experience for new volunteers who are joining the Help Centre team. We hope to continue this success in 2006-07.

Information Centre

Serving approximately 75,000 customers annually, the Information Centre was very busy throughout the 2005-2006 fiscal year. Located in Upper Place Riel, the Information Centre continues to be a key service to the students at the University community.

In 2005-06 new services were added to the Information Centre's already long list of products and services. Copy cards can now be purchased at the Information Centre and we have the ability to add money to existing cards. Faxing services and laminating have also proven to be popular additions to our services. Throughout September and January, the Information Centre sold four-month (semester) passes for Saskatoon Transit. Louis' tickets were made available on Ticketmaster this year and this terminal has seen a significant increase in business with a number of sold-out shows.

The main goal of the Information Centre is to provide quick and efficient customer service. In order to combat the perception of slow moving lines, the Information Centre set up another laptop and service line. Although the line-ups remained long they moved much more quickly.

The staffing also changed at the Information Centre. For many years, we operated with an Information Centre Supervisor, two permanent part-time staff and two hourly paid students. It has been difficult to find students to work the permanent part-time hours, so with the departure of a permanent part-time person, we changed the two part-time positions to one full-time. It has worked well and provides strong support to the Information Centre Supervisor along with additional support from the hourly paid student staff.

LGBTA Centre

The LGBTA Centre has had another busy year. We have seen over 7500 drop-ins for an increase of more than 2000 from the previous year. Reasons for these drop-ins include: peer support, information and resources, student advocacy, safer sex information (including free condoms, dental dams, female condoms, lube, and latex gloves), the LGBTA Centre Library, and a safe and positive space to relax, visit, study, and meet new people

With over 35 volunteers, 14 new this year, the LGBTA Centre has been able to offer a wide range of services for those accessing our location. These volunteers have been working on a variety of projects including spearheading a resource and referral project, the completion of the centre library update, the creation of new pamphlets, art projects for fundraisers, and research on a variety of issues.

The centre has been able to maintain and increase its visibility on campus through events including two successful drag shows at Louis', participation in Breaking the Silence conference, having a float in the Pride Parade, hosting a on-campus book launch for Pink Blood, a coffeehouse at McNally Robinson, and a film event at the Neatley-Timlin Theatre with Fish Can't Fly and in liaison with the University Chaplains. Overall, we were able to raise over \$2500 for various community organizations and groups this year.

In June 2005, the director attended the first annual Two-Spirit Conference in Regina. Over 75 people attended and shared ideas about inclusion, myths, and the history of Two-Spirit People. In January 2006, the director attended the first ever Queer Services Conference in Ottawa. This conference had over 200 people in attendance from queer campus groups across Canada. This conference was a great opportunity to network, share program ideas, and develop skills. The 2007 conference is slated for Winnipeg and we plan on sending a contingent of volunteers to attend.

The importance of the Speakers' Bureau has increased with 27 LGBT sensitivity training sessions this past year. These sessions were offered to a variety of groups including the colleges of Medicine, Social Work, Education, Women and Gender Studies, high schools, and Kelsey campuses in Saskatoon and Prince Albert. We also participated in a Bisexuality Workshop put on by the Avenue Community Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity.

CENTRES

Our greatest accomplishment this year was the advancement of the Positive Space program. The university-wide initiative has more than twenty participants, departments, and colleges signed on in its first year. Our director did 24 Positive Space presentations to student groups, faculty, and administration across campus. We debuted the Ally Buttons and pledge forms this year, to allow the student body to participate in Positive Space and have given away more than six hundred buttons since September. We ended the year with a public address at Convocation Hall looking at sexual diversity on our campus and the need for inclusion. This program can only grow bigger and better and we will continue our advocacy efforts in 2006-07.

Last summer we played host to a couple from Kansas who were married in Saskatoon. Our volunteers played music, and we presented them with a wedding present. We were able to create a collective of writers for the “Out and About” queer column that ran bi-monthly in the Sheaf. We are also in the process of creating a partner project with Disability Services and making a bookmark for students which identifies the accessible and gender neutral washrooms on our campus.

The centre also successfully continued its regular programming. We saw a brand new set of people accessing our services for our Friday afternoon movies and Tuesday night program, which provided games, entertainment, discussion, and crafts. The centre also made a blanket for AIDS Saskatoon as a housewarming gift. Lastly, for second semester, one of our volunteers created a centre e-newsletter that was distributed monthly.

The centre was regularly present in the tunnel handing out general information as well as celebrating awareness days like World AIDS Day, Coming Out Day, Vulvapalooza, Sextravaganza, and Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Women's Centre

The Women's Centre had another busy year both inside and outside the Memorial Union Building. Continuing to promote awareness and visibility of our space and its mission and goals, the Women's Centre, with over 40 active volunteers, organized regular wisdom workshops, discussion groups, social movie nights and potlucks, along with many successful annual events. In addition, volunteers worked diligently to create a positive, comfortable space for everyone on campus while maintaining a clear focus on feminist issues.

The Centre found a new home in the MUB this year, through a short move down the hall into Room 105, between the Sheaf office and the LGBTQA Centre. This move provided a more open, accessible, and visible space which resulted in a noticeable increase in traffic and drop-ins. The Victim Advocate, who had been housed in the old Women's Centre, moved to Room 114 an office down the hall. However, this change did not affect the close working relationship between the Centre and the Victim Advocate. In fact, the Women's Centre strengthened its ties with both the Victim Advocate and the LGBTQA Centre this year, by working cooperatively on several events, presentations, and committees.

The USSU Women's Centre Director, Victim Advocate, LGBTQA Centre Director, Vice-President Student Issues, and Safewalk and Student Crew Director, with members of the Saskatoon Women's Community Coalition (SWCC), collaborated to organize the Take Back the Night March in October. This annual event is a march to raise awareness of violence against women and reclaim the streets in solidarity. The Victim Advocate and Women's Centre director also worked together with the Saskatoon Men's Resource Centre on events surrounding December 6th, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. A week-long awareness event included information tables, a library display, and a memorial march. Furthermore, in the spirit of cooperative effort with the community, our Director, along with the LGBTQA Centre Director, and the VP Student Issues worked with the SWCC on the International Women's Day dinner in March. All these collaborative efforts were well received and well attended.

In February, the Women's Centre presented a production of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* for the fourth consecutive year. As part of the international V-Day campaign, the Saskatoon production raised almost \$10,000 with all the proceeds going to local beneficiaries such as Tamara's House, Sexually Exploited Youth Speak Out (SEYSO), as well as an international group working with the Comfort Women of Japan. The Monologues were performed in front of two very enthusiastic sold out crowds. The cast and crew honoured three Vagina Warriors (local feminist activists) who are making a difference in our community. In addition to the Monologues, the V-Day campaign also included a two-week awareness event called Vulvapalooza which further strengthened the Centre's relationship with nine other women-focused community organizations.

There were many other Centre activities this year, including a weekly body image discussion group, and regular meetings of a discussion group called the Reproductive Circle, focusing on all aspects relating to women's reproductive and sexual health. Guest speakers from partnering organizations such as Planned Parenthood and AIDS Saskatoon attended some of these meetings. Our volunteers and director organized monthly social events, including potluck parties, and feminist film nights. There was also continued success with our monthly Wisdom Workshops, which covered an eclectic range of topics from breast health to knitting and crocheting to bike maintenance.

Our volunteers received many training opportunities on topics such as peer support, suicide intervention, and LGBT sensitivity training. We are very fortunate to have strong partnerships with many organizations and committees, both in the Saskatoon community and on our campus. These partnerships provide us with ample opportunity to organize discussion groups and events to promote awareness of feminist issues on our campus and create social change. Continued, dedicated efforts from our strong volunteer base will provide the momentum for another successful year to come.

AWARDS

On March 23 the USSU again recognized excellence at the University of Saskatchewan with the 2006 Experience in Excellence Awards. The intent of the Experience in Excellence Awards is to show the Students' Unions' 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 2004-2005 academic year were:

Dr. Louise Humbert
Trevor Crowe
Professor Fred Phillips
Dr. Xulin Guo
Adam Bourassa
Professor Jamie Campbell
Ken Van Rees
David Rozotto
Jeff Taylor
Dr. Jaswant Singh

Vera Pezer Awards for Student Enhancement

The University of Saskatchewan experience has a broader scope than a classroom. To be involved means to add to ourselves, our personal portfolios, and to make a difference in some way. 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: Tracey Mitchell (Member of Student Council), Joanne Horsley & William Bower (USSU Centres), Lauren McDonald (Volunteerism), Campus Sustainability Network (Campus Groups).

AWARDS

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 Mario Carmona (USSU Staff Member) and Jack Mason (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 Nicholas Fraser, the USSU Women's Centre Award to Gina McKay, and the USSU Help Centre Award to Genevieve Prevost.

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. This year the Walter Murray Leadership award was presented to Alisha McLean



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AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying summarized statement of financial position and statement of operations are derived from the complete financial statements of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union as at April 30, 2006 and for the year then ended on which we expressed an opinion without reservation in our report dated July 12, 2006. The fair summarization of the complete financial statements is the responsibility of management. Our responsibility, in accordance with the applicable Assurance Guideline of the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants, is to report on the summarized financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements fairly summarize, in all material respects, the related complete financial statements in accordance with the criteria described in the Guideline referred to above.

These summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles. Readers are cautioned that these statements may not be appropriate for their purposes. For more information on the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union financial position, results of operations and cash flows, reference should be made to the related complete financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP'.

Chartered Accountants

Saskatoon, Canada
July 12, 2006

FINANCIALS

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN STUDENTS' UNION

Summarized Statement of Financial Position

April 30, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Assets		
Cash and trust cash	\$ 496,027	\$ 135,179
Investments, at cost	1,724,986	1,822,092
Accounts receivable and prepaid expenses	204,455	162,695
Inventories	89,954	75,126
Property and equipment, net of accumulated amortization	5,635,090	5,628,213
Total assets	\$ 8,150,512	\$ 7,823,305
Liabilities		
Accounts payable, deferred revenue and trust liability	\$ 956,880	\$ 915,674
Payable to the University of Saskatchewan	574,430	234,865
Deferred trust fund contributions	5,052,150	5,199,626
Obligations under capital lease	85,303	144,223
	6,668,763	6,494,388
Net assets		
Unrestricted surplus	984,112	1,044,553
Equity in property and equipment	497,637	284,364
	1,481,749	1,328,917
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 8,150,512	\$ 7,823,305

See accompanying note to financial statements.

FINANCIALS

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN STUDENTS' UNION

Summarized Statement of Operations

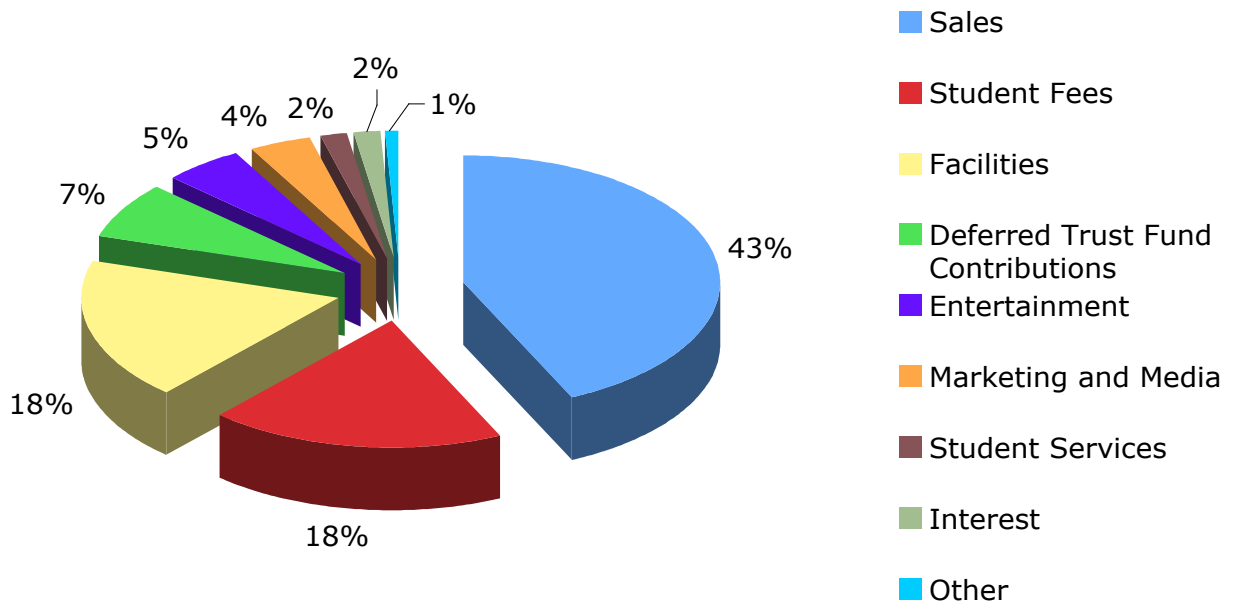
Year ended April 30, 2006, with comparative figures for 2005

	2006	2005
Revenue:		
Sales	\$ 1,792,751	\$ 1,932,056
Student fees	768,109	742,952
Facilities	750,268	685,470
Deferred trust fund contributions	296,820	347,101
Entertainment	206,940	122,547
Marketing and media	162,319	156,924
Student services	78,502	129,987
Interest	65,882	70,570
Other	33,273	36,993
	4,154,864	4,224,600
Expenses:		
Business operations	1,672,908	1,895,601
Administrative	668,373	753,091
Building maintenance	533,798	492,178
Amortization	487,473	524,206
Student governance	244,174	210,387
Student services	192,134	262,718
Entertainment	186,984	141,364
Marketing and media	38,409	38,772
	4,024,253	4,318,317
Income (loss) before the undernoted	130,611	(93,717)
Other income (expense):		
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(3,718)	(48,277)
Gain on disposal of long-term investments	25,939	5,568
	22,221	(42,709)
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 152,832	\$ (136,426)

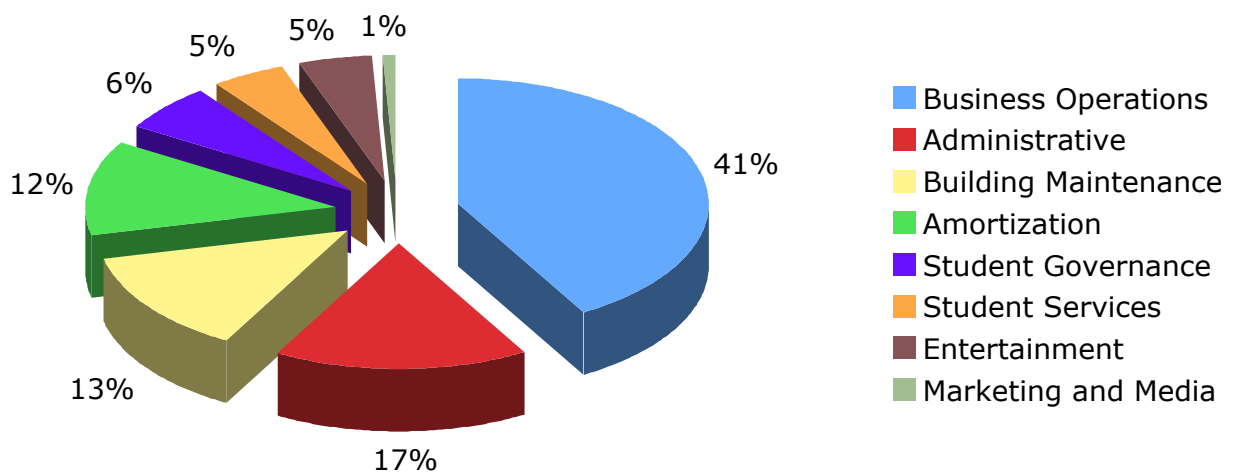
Note: A full version of the financial statements will be made available at the office of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union.

FINANCIALS

Revenues



Expenses



Student Fees

Full-time on-campus students (registered in 9 or more credit units per term)

Student Fee	Term 1	Term 2	Spring & Summer (2006)
Student Union	\$25.48	\$25.48	\$24.28
Athletic	26.58	26.58	--
Recreation	23.56	23.56	--
Sheaf Fee	3.20	3.20	--
Student Services Fee	15.00	15.00	15.00
WUSC	1.50	1.50	--
USSU Health Insurance	142.07	--	--
USSU Dental Insurance	101.18	--	--
USSU Infrastructure	10.00	10.00	--
Total	\$348.57	\$105.32	\$39.28

Part-time on-campus students: (registered in fewer than 9 credit units per term)

Student Fee	Term 1	Term 2	Spring & Summer (2006)
Student Union	\$12.74	\$12.74	\$12.14
Athletic	13.29	13.29	--
Recreation	11.78	11.78	--
Sheaf Fee	1.60	1.60	--
Student Services Fee	15.00	15.00	15.00
WUSC	1.50	1.50	--
USSU Infrastructure	5.00	5.00	--
Total	\$60.91	\$60.91	\$27.14

Off-campus and Audit only students: (full and part time)

Student Fee	Term 1	Term 2	Spring & Summer (2006)
Student Union	\$12.74	\$12.74	\$12.14
Student Services Fee	7.50	7.50	7.50
USSU Infrastructure	5.00	5.00	--
Total	\$25.24	\$25.24	\$19.64

Operations

Browsers - Memorial Union Building

966-6901 – Browsers

966-6903 – Browsers Supervisor (Tara Mupanguri)

Copy Central (Photocopier Fleet) - Murray Library

966-6999 – Copy Desk (Len Derksen)

Information Centre - Place Riel Student Centre, Rm. 78

966-6988 – Info Centre Supervisor (Stefanie Livingston)

Louis' - Memorial Union Building

966-7000 – Louis'

966-7001 – Louis' Ass't Manager - Nights

(Scott Cavanagh)

966-7002 – Louis' Site Manager (George Foufas)

966-7003 – Louis' Kitchen Manager (Norman Parchman)

966-6963 – Louis' Events & Programming Manager

(Jason Kovitch)

XL Design & Reproductions - Memorial Union Building

966-6976 – Graphic Artist (Avril Arthur)

Centres

Food Centre - Lower Saskatchewan Hall, Rm. 72

966-1792 – Food Centre Attendant (Lauren Faris)

Help Centre - Arts Tunnel, Rm. 27

966-6982 – Help Centre Director (Jessie Buydens)

LGBTA Centre - Memorial Union Building, Rm. 104
966-6615 – LGBTA Centre Director
(Nicole White)

Safewalk/Student Crew Administration - Place Riel Student Centre, Rm. 65
966-2240 – Safewalk/Student Crew Director
(Melissa Cotton)

Women's Centre - Memorial Union Building, Rm. 118
966-2984 – Victim Advocate
(Allyson Clarke)

966-6980 – Women's Centre Director - (Jennifer Kim)

USSU Administration USSU Main Office

Place Riel Student Centre, Rm. 65

966-2510 – Academic Affairs Officer (Chris Phillips)
966-6971 – Accounting Assistant (Amanda Mitchell)
966-6594 – Accounting Assistant (Peggy Pfeil)
966-6966 – Communications & Development Coordinator (Tara Faris)
966-6974 – Comm. Coordinator Assistant (Meshon Cantrill)
966-6991 – Confidential Secretary (Kendra Wilkie)
966-6989 – Facilities & Operations Manager (Freda Salikin)
966-6969 – General Manager - Acting (Crystel Knihniski)
966-6972 - Human Resources Manager (Jackie Swinnerton)
966-6962 – Receptionist (Lyndon MacNeill)
966-6973 – Student Services Coordinator (Amy Yeager)

2005/06 Executive Council

Place Riel Student Centre, Rm. 65

966-6965 – President (Gavin Gardiner)

966-6967 – VP Op/Fin (Brett Campbell)

966-6968 – VP Academic Affairs (Evan Cole)

966-6985 – VP External Affairs (Michael Kowalsky)

966-6970 – VP Student Issues Rm. (Sarah Connor)

University Students' Council

Brent Thoma, Chair

Brad Flavell, Arts and Science

Tracey Mitchell, Arts and Science

Chris Gallaway, Commerce

Jason Villeneuve, Education

Susan Yakimoski, Education

Wadena Burnett, Engineering

Gina Otte, Kinesiology

Terra Lennox-Zepp, Law

Vishnu Singh, Medecine

Blayne Coffin, Physical Therapy

Nicholas Ansaldo, St. Thomas More

Alice Collins, St. Thomas More

Ana Melendez, VPRA

Jeremy Olthof, Agriculture

Roberta Boyle, Commerce

Kelly Morin, Indigenous

Alex Korshever, International

Holly-Anne Sedor, Nursing

Mark Taylor, Pharmacy and Nutrition

Hardeep Birdi, Dentistry

Benjamin David, Engineering

Chris Bierderbeck, WCVm

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Aboriginal Students' Association
African Students' Association
AnAmUS
APALA
Biochemistry Students' Association
Biology Club
BOCP
Campus Crusade for Christ
Campus Sustainability Network
Catholic Christian Outreach
Caveat Lector
CCABS
Cercle Francais
Chemical Engineering Students' Society
Christian Volunteer Movement
Computer Science Students' Society
CSSA
Economics Students' Society
Engineers Without Borders
Eritrean Students' Association
Frontier College
German Students' Association
Global Friends
IEEE
IEEE Illumination
International Students' Association
Intervarsity Christian Fellowship
ISSA
Jewish Students' Association
Lutheran Campus Ministry
Malaysian Students' Association
Microbiology & Immunology Students' Society
Muslim Students' Association
New Covenant Bible Fellowship
Newman Centre

AFFILIATED CLUBS

Ore Gangu
Pakistani Canadian Students' Association
Physics Students' Society
Political Studies and Public Admin Society
Pre-Dentistry Club
Psychology Students' Society
Punjabi Students' Association
SEALS
Seeger Wheeler Executive
SOLD
Students' For Life
SUSA
Toxicology Students' Society
UofS 4H Active Alumni
UofS Conservatives
UofS Debate Club
UofS Drama Club
UofS Gamer's Club
UofS Golden Key Society
UofS Habitat for Humanity
UofS Mobilization for Global Justice
UofS Model United Nations
UofS Oxfam
UofS Pre-Vet Club
UofS Rights and Democracy Delegation
UofS SADD
UofS Sask Party Club
UofS Young Liberals
UofS Young NDP
USST
VASU
WCVS Animal Welfare Club
WUSC
WCVSA

AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS

Agriculture Students' Association
Arts and Science Students' Association
Commerce Students' Society
Dental Students' Society
Education Students' Society
Engineering Students' Society
Kinesiology Students' Society
Law Students' Association
Nursing Students' Society
Physical Therapy Students' Association
Student Medical Society



University of Saskatchewan Students' Union

Room 65, Place Riel Students' Centre

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