



**University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**  
2011-12 Annual Report





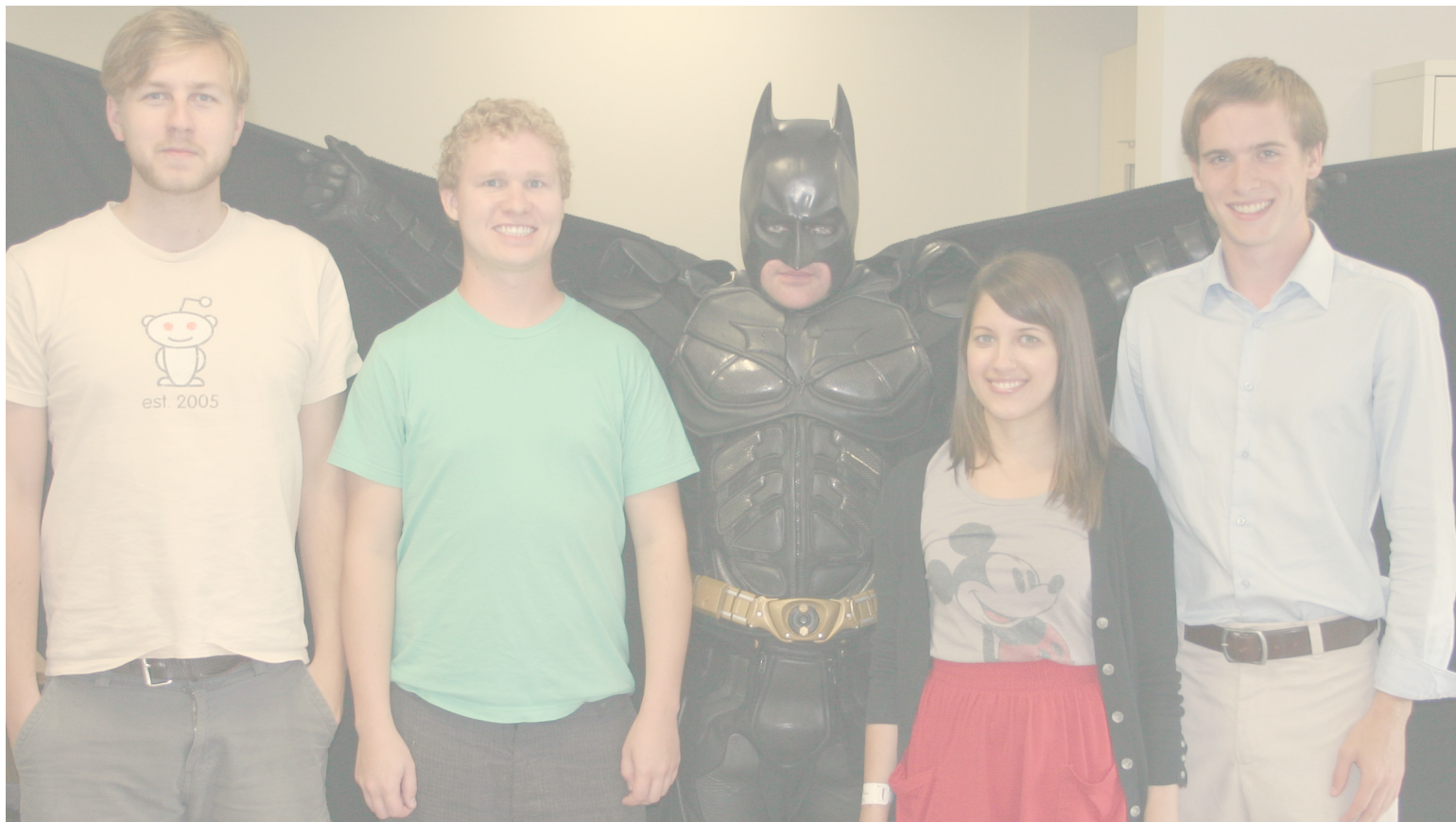




# Contents

- Page 4** President's Message
- Page 8** General Manager's Message
- Page 12** USSU Operations
- Page 14** Excellence Awards
- Page 16** Financial Statements
- Page 20** USSU Fees
- Page 21** Directory





## **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.



## President's Message



“...the **first time in USSU history** that the governing body has had a **dedicated meeting space.**”

The 2011-2012 year was one of great opportunity for the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union. With the Grand Opening of the Place Riel Student Centre taking place over the summer, the USSU was proudly able to greet students in September with a fully-operational building which serves as the front door of the University. Among the features of the newly renovated and expanded Place Riel is the Roy Romanow Student Council Chambers, more accessible campus club space for student groups, the International Student and Study Abroad Centre, a wider selection of food outlets, and many other improvements to the student experience at the U of S. The provision of these services is just one of the ways that the USSU strives to fulfill its values of social, economic, and environmental responsibility.

The Executive also brought forward sweeping changes to the governance structure of the USSU through bylaw changes at the Annual General Meeting in November and a Special General Meeting in February. The first of these changes dealt with how Members of University Students' Council are elected. In the past, elections for Members of Students' Council were held by student societies who each had their own set of rules for how the elections were to take place. With the changes, the USSU took control of the elections and standardized the process thereby ensuring that all Members of Students' Council were elected in a consistent fashion.

“These numerous **improvements to the student experience** are very much **in line with the USSU’s values** of social, economic and environmental responsibility.”



The other major change was a clarification about to whom Members of Students' Council are responsible. In an agreement struck by an Ad-Hoc Committee and passed at a Special General Meeting, MSCs are now responsible to the students at large who elect them, but also have a responsibility to consult with the group or student society most closely related to their body of constituents. These changes ensure that MSCs are able to vote in a way that they choose, based on what they feel is best for the students who elected them, and not necessarily in way that is consistent with any particular student society or group.

Another major development was the announcement that President Peter MacKinnon would be retiring, and a Search Committee was struck to find the next President of the University of Saskatchewan. The University announced Ilene Busch-Vishniac as the

new President, the first woman to hold the position in the history of our institution. President Busch-Vishniac intends on ensuring that students are a priority in every decision the University makes. It has been an honour to represent and to serve the students of the University of Saskatchewan for the past year, and I am immensely optimistic about the future of the USSU and its ability to overcome the challenges it is sure to face in the coming years.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Hitchings', with a stylized, cursive script.

Scott Hitchings  
USSU President 2011-2012



## General Manager's Message



“**...Place Riel.**  
The culmination of  
**years** of work by  
literally **hundreds of**  
**people...**”

On August 18th, 2011 the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union hosted a formal grand opening of the newly renovated and expanded Place Riel. The culmination of years of work by literally hundreds of people, new Place Riel was intended to create a space for undergraduate students and the rest of the campus community in which non-academic, non-athletic social and political functions could occur. The celebration, attended by about a hundred invited guests, was a huge success while the building itself has far exceeded our expectations. Partly designed to accommodate the university's Student Health and Student Counselling departments, Place Riel further caters to student health needs through the inclusion of a pharmacy and the student

health program offices. On the lower level there is a computer store, a convenience store, and six food outlets. The second floor houses the USSU's new offices which have allowed us to vacate the temporary offices in the MUB thereby allowing the Women's, Pride and Food Centres to once again occupy their old space on the main floor.

The Place Riel project has consumed a huge amount of my time since 2007, as well as the time and energy of our Facilities and Business Manager, Freda Salikin. Her expertise, work ethic, and unfailing sense of humour made the experience so much more interesting and exciting than it might otherwise have been. I also owe a big debt to other USSU staff members for carrying the load, uncomplainingly,

during a very long period when my attentions were elsewhere, and for being so cheerfully willing to adapt to any and all situations the project created. Particular thanks go to the senior managers, Amanda Mitchell, Jason Kovitch and Jason Ventnor.

Another very exciting component of the project was the development of the USSU's first dedicated Student Council meeting space, the Roy Romanow Student Council Chamber, upon which I reported last year. At last year's report University Students' Council had only used the new board room a couple of times but now Council has had the opportunity to meet there for a year and I am very happy to report that it has been a huge success in terms of being a space which has been exceptionally conducive to the governance business of the USSU. Bright, comfortable, and at a proper temperature (unlike our previous space) the Council Chamber has helped encourage lively debate and discussion and good decision making processes.

This year also witnessed a return to a four person Executive, the position of Vice President External having been eliminated

effective May 1st. The duties of this position were distributed among the remaining Executive members and they were able to absorb them with relative ease. Concerns about deadlocks were proven unfounded as the Executive worked to create consensus rather than majority positions. We also continued with our senior manager-Executive mentorship program and this allowed each Executive member to have ready access to a single individual with whom they could discuss any issues.

From Welcome Week to academic advocacy, the USSU's Executive and their staff strive daily to meet our vision of being the recognized leader in enhancing the student experience. Once again, for 2011-12, I am very proud to say that we have done an excellent job in meeting that vision.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Caroline Cottrell". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Caroline" written in a larger, more prominent hand than the last name "Cottrell".

Caroline Cottrell  
General Manager

“ Another very **exciting component** of the project was the development of the **USSU’s first dedicated Student Council meeting space...**”



# USSU Operations

## Browsers Café

This year Browsers Café made a big change by switching from Starbucks as our main espresso and brew coffee supplier to Museo, a local organic coffee roaster. We felt this change would fit better with the current movement within the USSU regarding sustainability by supporting local businesses and including boutique/specialty products that would draw in a new crowd without alienating current customers.

The used book and consignment area of Browsers continues to see a decline in sales and consignments due to the number of new editions being printed, especially for 100 and 200 level classes, which are the primary book supply. Online ordering (Amazon), selling used books on kijiji and professors creating custom reading packages has also had an affect on the volume of books coming in. Management continues to monitor the decline and has begun discussing alternatives or supplemental product offerings.

## XL Print & Design

XL Print & Design has been in operation on campus for 8 years and in 2012 it moved to a larger location on the main floor of the Memorial Union Building to accommodate their growing business.

XL Print & Design specializes in wide format printing, colour copying and graphic design. XL offers wide format colour printing of up to 5 feet and carries various types of media such as matte paper, photo gloss, vinyl, canvas and sticker paper. XL can also print black and white wide format of up to 3 feet for the budget conscious, and help with design of event posters, invitations, business cards, research posters and so much more.



## Louis'

Louis' enjoyed a successful, record-breaking fiscal year with over \$1.6 million in sales. The year kicked off with a sold out wedding season and beach volleyball league. The fall was highlighted by record attendance in the Bowl and sold out Welcome Week concerts. Louis' continued the busy year by catering to students with an extensive menu, nightly promotions, and a wide variety of entertainment.

Louis' continues to grow business outside the walls of the Memorial Union Building as well. Catering orders grew across campus including many functions in the newly renovated Place Riel Student Centre. Louis' continues to provide food and beverage services at Griffith Stadium for another year of events ranging from Huskie Football games to track and field meets.

In 2011, University Student Council approved a proposal to renovate Louis'. Operations were shut down in April and renovations commenced that made the room more open and flexible. New chairs, tables, lighting and flooring were also added that will make Louis' welcoming for years to come.

## Information Centre

The Information Centre has undergone some changes this year. With the opening of the Mac's Store in Lower Place Riel, the Information Centre is no longer selling lottery tickets, some Saskatoon Transit items, phone cards and other small items. Moreover, located as it is, next to the USSU's Reception desk, there is increasing carry-over and cooperation between the two spaces. Between the two desks, students' needs for U-Pass stickers or opt-outs, housing advertising, CHEP good food boxes, club insurance, show tickets, STC bus tickets, and countless directions to other parts of campus are now met in one central location

# 2011-12 Experience in Excellence Awards

## Teaching Excellence Awards

Selected by students, the Teaching Excellence Award recognizes those who have demonstrated enthusiasm, organization and fairness in evaluation, providing exceptional commitment and support to their classrooms. The 2011-12 winners are:

- Karla Griffin, Art & Art History
- Barbara von Tigerstrom, College of Law
- Bruce Sparling, Civil & Geological Engineering
- Wayne Dyck, Educational Psychology & Special Education
- David Schreyer, Anatomy & Cell Biology
- Glorie Tebbutt, English
- Dionne Pohler, Edwards School of Business
- Lorin Elias, Psychology
- Donald Story, Political Studies
- George Keyworth, Religion & Culture

## USSU Centre Awards

The USSU Centre Awards recognize those among the University of Saskatchewan faculty, staff, students and alumni who have demonstrated leadership and courage in advancing the quality of life in support of those experiencing outstanding struggles. The 2011-12 winners are:

- James Sambrook, USSU Pride Centre Doug Wilson Award
- Natalya Mason, USSU Help Centre Award
- Ricquelle Germain, USSU Women's Centre Award

## Walter Murray Leadership Award

This award is presented to a student who has provided leadership beyond the call of duty in enhancing the student experience at the University of Saskatchewan. The 2011-12 winner is:

- Shira Fenyes, Women in the Legislature (WiL)

### **Doug Favell Staff Spirit Award**

This award recognizes non-academic staff members who are responsible for enhancing the student experience. The 2011-12 winners are:

- Mandy Elash, USSU Staff member
- Richard Florizone, U of S Staff Member

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

This award is presented to U of S student volunteers who have given their time and energy to ensure that non-academic facets of the student experience are enhanced. The 2011-12 winners are:

- David Konkin, Member of Student Council
- Briana Mackow, USSU Centres
- Alex Gao, Volunteerism
- Drama Club, Campus Group of the Year

### **Academic Advising Award**

This award honors outstanding delivery of Academic Advising at the University of Saskatchewan and serves to recognize the importance Academic Advising has on enhancing the student experience. The 2011-12 winner is:

- Phil Thacker, Animal and Poultry Science

### **Engaged Young Alumni Award**

The Engaged Alumni Excellence Award is given to an alumnus who is actively engaged in their community and has maintained a strong connection to the alumni of the university, who has graduated in the past five years, and is 35 years of age or younger. The 2011-12 winner is:

- Bryan McCrea

# **Summarized Financial Statements of University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**

Year ended April 30, 2012



**KPMG LLP**

**Chartered Accountants**

600 - 128 Fourth Avenue South

Saskatoon SK S7K 1M8

**Telephone** (306) 934-6200

**Fax** (306) 934-6233

**Internet** [www.kpmg.ca](http://www.kpmg.ca)



## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The accompanying summary financial statements of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at April 30, 2012 and the summary statement of operations for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial statements, prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union as at and for the year ended April 30, 2012.

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated August 29, 2012.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles applied in the preparation of the audited financial statements of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union.

### *Management's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation of a fair summary of the audited financial statements.

### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements."

### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union as at and for the year ended April 30, 2012 are a fair summary of those financial statements.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KPMG LLP". The signature is written in a cursive, stylized font. Below the signature is a horizontal line that starts under the "K" and ends under the "P", with a small upward tick at the right end.

Chartered Accountants  
Saskatoon, Canada  
August 29, 2012

# 2011-12 Statement of Financial Position

April 30, 2012, with comparative figures for 2011

Assets:	2012	2011
Cash	\$ 1,839,272	\$ 6,578,628
Accounts receivable	39,100	51,858
Inventories	89,158	91,228
Prepaid expenses	20,183	15,399
Short-term investments	2,386,358	2,482,638
	<b>4,374,071</b>	<b>9,219,751</b>
Property and equipment	25,336,029	4,205,050
Building development costs	–	18,975,776
Trust fund	2,000	2,000
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>29,712,100</b>	<b>32,402,577</b>

Liabilities and Net Assets:	2012	2011
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 1,067,289	\$ 2,866,766
Due to University of Saskatchewan	137	32,175
Deferred revenue	154,188	146,981
Current portion of long term debt	236,503	212,675
Current portion of obligations under capital lease	17,260	16,534
	<b>1,475,377</b>	<b>3,275,131</b>
Long-term debt	17,717,281	17,953,784
Deferred capital contributions	10,009,968	9,959,704
Obligations under capital lease	69,964	4,607
Trust liability	2,000	2,000
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>437,510</b>	<b>1,207,351</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,712,100</b>	<b>32,402,577</b>

On behalf of the Board:



Director

Caroline Cottrell, General Manager



Director

Reid Nystuen, VP Operations & Finance

# 2011-12 Statement of Operations

Year ended April 30, 2012, with comparative figures for 2011

Revenue:	2012	2011
Sales	\$ 2,080,233	\$ 1,893,352
Amortization of deferred capital contributions	1,522,660	220,159
Student fees	1,042,084	973,644
Facilities	921,440	594,952
Marketing and media	96,710	109,710
Other	55,584	51,300
Entertainment	51,883	31,057
Student services	28,972	33,923
Investment income and changes in fair value	17,615	44,142
Ratification revenue	12,626	11,667
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,829,807</b>	<b>3,963,906</b>

Expenses:	2012	2011
Business operations	\$ 2,106,691	\$ 1,972,172
Amortization	1,161,289	381,238
Financing costs	1,106,513	–
Administrative	844,803	828,593
Building maintenance	678,948	679,331
Student services	231,746	217,175
Student governance	200,872	239,944
Marketing and media	45,910	43,985
Entertainment	44,905	34,519
	<b>6,421,677</b>	<b>4,396,957</b>
<b>Loss before the undernoted</b>	<b>(591,870)</b>	<b>(433,051)</b>

Other expense:		
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	\$ (177,971)	\$ (9,794)
Deficiency of revenue over expenses	\$ (769,841)	\$ (442,845)

# 2011-12 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.....	\$ 65.06
World University Service of Canada (WUSC).....	\$ 7.00
Health and Dental Plan .....	\$ 238.42
Student Infrastructure Fee.....	\$ 106.04
U-Pass .....	\$ 143.86 (\$71.93 per term)

## Part-Time On Campus Undergraduate Students

Students' Union.....	\$ 32.53
World University Service of Canada (WUSC) .....	\$ 3.50
Student Infrastructure Fee .....	\$ 53.02
U-Pass .....	\$ 143.86 (\$71.93 per term)

## Off-Campus and Audit Only Students

Students' Union.....	\$ 32.53
Student Services Fee .....	\$15.00
Student Infrastructure Fee .....	\$ 50.50

## 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 \$3.50 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.

The background of the entire image is a dark teal or forest green color with a heavily textured, mottled appearance. It looks like a close-up of a rough surface or a high-resolution digital texture. The word "Directory" is centered in the middle of this background.

# Directory



## 2011-12 Executive Committee

**President:** Scott Hitchings

**VP Operations & Finance:** Reid Nystuen

**VP Academic Affairs:** Kelsey Topola

**VP Student Affairs:** Alex Ferwerda

## University Students' Council

**Chair:** Matt Leisle

**Agriculture and Bioresources:** Autumn Darker

**Arts & Science:** Leon Thompson

**Dentistry:** Adam Stenerson

**Education:** Jessalyn Clark

**Education:** Rylan Goudreau

**Engineering:** Adam Gartner

**Engineering:** Noel Zimmer

**Edwards School of Business:** Kelsey Froh

**Edwards School of Business:** Jenna Moellenbeck

**Indigenous Students:** Jared Brown

**Indigenous Students:** Marylou Mintram

**International Students:** Rui Du

**Law:** Michael Stevens

**Medicine:** Kerollos Wanis

**Nursing:** Annie Lucas

**Pharmacy & Nutrition:** Baylie Sinclair

**St. Thomas More:** David Konkin

**St. Thomas More:** Desiree Steele

**Veterinary Medicine:** Alyssa Anderson

## USSU Administration

**General Manager:** Caroline Cottrell

**Facilities & Business Manager:** Freda Salikin

**Communications & Services Manager:** Jason Ventnor

**Controller:** Amanda Mitchell

**Facilities & Events Coordinator:** Stefanie Ewen

**Graphic & Media Designer:** Olivia Swerhone-Wick

**Accounting Assistant:** Peggy Pfeil

**Administrative Secretary:** Barb Yanko

**Administrative Secretary:** Desiree Moody

**Administrative Secretary:** Mandy Elash

**Head Janitor:** Allison Thieman

## USSU Operations

**Browsers:** Amanda Borycki

**Copy Central:** Len Derksen

**Information Centre:** Poonam Rana

**Louis':** Jason Kovitch, Norman Parchman, Dan Smolinski, Sean Gallop

**XL Design & Reproductions:** Meredith Penner

## USSU Centres

**Food Centre:** Jared Tam

**Help Centre:** Alex Werenka

**Pride Centre:** Keegan Epp

**Safewalk / Student Crew:** Ruvimbo Kanyemba

**Women's Centre:** Ashley Pearse

## Affiliated Clubs and Associations

African Student Association  
Ahmadiyya Muslim Student Association  
AIESEC Saskatoon  
Amnesty International  
Anatomy and Cell Biology Student Society  
Archaeology Student Association  
Best Buddies U of S  
Biochemistry Students Association  
Biology Club  
Campus Association for Baha'i Studies  
Canadian Association of Pharmacy Students and Interns (CAPSI)  
Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) University of  
Saskatchewan Student Chapter  
Catholic Christian Outreach  
Chemical Engineering Student's Society (ChESS)  
Chemistry Students' Society  
Chinese Students & Scholars Association  
Civils Club  
College Fresh Music  
Comitatus  
Computer Science Students Society  
Crisis Relief Students Association  
CUPC 2011  
Economics Student Society  
Edwards Roundtable 2012 Conference  
Edwards School of Business JDC West team

Engineering Students Building Bridges  
Engineers Without Borders - University of Saskatchewan Chapter  
Environmental Engineering Student Society  
Environmental Studies Student Association  
Frontier College  
German Circle  
Golden Key International-University of Saskatchewan Chapter  
Health Sciences Students' Association of Saskatchewan (HSSA-SK)  
History Undergraduate Student Association  
Huskie Athletic Council  
Huskie Motorsports  
IEEE Illumination  
IEEE Student Group  
India Students Association  
Indian Teacher's Education Program - Student Council  
Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship  
International Studies Students' Association  
Israel on Campus  
Jewish Student's Association  
Louis' Trivia Organisation  
MASA (Malaysian Student Association)  
Mechanical Engineering Student's Association  
Muslim Students' Association  
Northern Administration Students' Association  
Ore Gangue Students' Society  
Oxfam Canada  
Pandora Women's Ultimate Frisbee  
Physics Students' Society

Physiology/Pharmacology Students Society (PPSS)  
Political Studies and Public Administration Students Society  
Power to Change, University of Saskatchewan (Formerly Campus for Christ)  
Prairie Party Planners  
Religious Studies Student Union (RSSU)  
Room for Improvement Youth Development Inc.  
Saskatchewan 4-H Active Alumni  
Saskatchewan Party Campus Club  
Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP)  
Saskatoon Psychology Students' Society  
Saskatoon Teelo Association  
Sheptytsky Institute Student Representative Council  
SIFE Saskatchewan  
Student Wellness Initiative Toward Community Health (SWITCH)  
Students for Public Interest Research  
The Campus Greens Club  
The Planning Students' Association  
The U of S Pre-Vet Club  
U of S Argentine Tango Club  
U of S Bhangra Club  
U of S Concrete Toboggan  
U of S Curling Club  
U of S Drama Students' Association  
U of S Freethought Alliance  
U of S Gamers Club  
U of S Kin Club  
U of S Pre Med Club  
U of S Table Tennis Club

University of Saskatchewan Debate Society  
University of Saskatchewan New Democrats  
University of Saskatchewan Rugby Club  
University of Saskatchewan Students for Life  
University of Saskatchewan Ukrainian Students' Association  
Visual Artists Students Union  
WCVM Equine Club: Student Chapter of the AAEP  
Women in the Legislature (WIL)  
World University Service of Canada: University of  
Saskatchewan Local Committee  
Indigenous Students' Council  
Law Students' Association  
Saskatchewan Dental Students Society  
Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Students' Society (SPNSS)  
Student Medical Society of Saskatchewan (SMSS)  
Western Canadian Veterinary Students' Association  
Arts & Science Student Union  
Education Students' Society  
Edwards Business Students' Society  
Saskatoon Engineering Students' Society  
Saskatoon Nursing Students' Association  
Agricultural Students' Association  
Kinesiology Students' Society  
University of Saskatchewan Cheerleading Team  
The U of S English Undergraduate Society  
U of S Animanga







# **University of Saskatchewan Students' Union**

Room 110, Place Riel Student Centre

1 Campus Drive

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

S7N 5A3