

THE GATEWAY

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Students' Union Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta
T6G 2J7Telephone 780.492.5168
Fax 780.492.6665Ad Inquiries 780.492.6700
Email gateway@gateway.ualberta.ca

editorialstaff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Adam Gaumont
eic@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.5168**MANAGING EDITOR** Paul Owen
managing@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6654**SENIOR NEWS EDITOR** Natalie Climenhaga
news@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7308**DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR** Ryan Heise
deputynews@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6664**OPINION EDITOR** Conal Pierce
opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6661**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR** Paul Blinov
entertainment@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.7052**SPORTS EDITOR** Robin Collum
sports@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6652**PHOTO EDITOR** Mike Otto
photo@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6648**DESIGN & PRODUCTION EDITOR** Mike Kendrick
production@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6663**ONLINE COORDINATOR** Victor Vargas
online@gateway.ualberta.ca

businessstaff

BUSINESS MANAGER Steve Smith
biz@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6669**AD SALES REPRESENTATIVE** Patrick Cziolek
sales@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6700**AD/GRAPHIC DESIGNER** Larissa Gilchrist
design@gateway.ualberta.ca | 492.6647**CIRCULATION PAL** Megan Cleaveley
CIRCULATION PAL Kelsey Tanasiuk
circulation@gateway.ualberta.ca

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, HP Scanjet flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of FENICE, Joanna, Kepler and Whitney. The Manitoban is the Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's games of choice are Final Fantasy 6: Advance and Hanging Out At Council 2: The ReCouncillng.

contributors

Tristan Folinsee, Amanda Ash, Jenny Frogner, Trevor Phillips, Nick Frost, Mike Smith, Kristina De Guzman, Bryan Saunders, Katherine Bell, Kelsey Tanasiuk, Sophia Burak, Jonn Kmech, Ruth McGaffigan, Chris Krause, Shaun Lyons, Jonn Gagnon, Jeff Martin, Erinne Fenwick, Ryan Shippelt, Lauren Stieglitz, Shaun Mott, Pete Yee

SU revokes political policy impeding monetary support for Bear Scat service

BEAR SCAT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Earlier, VP (Academic) Bobby Samuel gave a presentation outlining the history of the SU and Bear Scat, reiterating that academic services such as registration are solely the purview of the University and should therefore not be supported by the SU or SU funds.

Samuel added that the issue has come down to principles versus popularity. Monetarily supporting Bear Scat, he argued, "establishes a dangerous precedent for us if we actually fund an academic service that would normally be funded by the University of Alberta."

Samuel also noted that he sees nothing wrong with the original political policy adopted by the SU.

"I think it represents everything that the Students' Union has been trying to do: it upholds our principles, and it addresses the issues at hand, which is Bear Tracks' functionality."

But other members of Council felt the wording of the policy pigeonholed the SU into a very specific course of action—one that could turn out to be quite limiting.

"I argued strongly in favour of the policy when it was first introduced," SU President Michael Janz said, adding that the University has agreed to add the functionality of Bear Scat into the Bear Tracks upgrade.

"However, the University is unwilling to budge on [the fact] that none of these features are going to be implemented until November 2008," Janz continued. "That means we're still going to have another two, possibly

three terms where, in the mean time, students are going to have to be using Bear Tracks.

"In the short term, we're in a position where we can definitely use Bear Scat," he said.

Debate in Council chambers continued for nearly three hours Tuesday night, with much of it focused on whether or not the SU should risk spending students' funds in order to provide a service of the University for an unspecified amount of time.

"In the short term, we're in a position where we can definitely use Bear Scat."**MICHAEL JANZ**
SU PRESIDENT

While the debate between Samuel and other members of the executive—primarily President Janz—grew quite heated at times, it became clear that a majority of councillors were in favour of repealing the line in the policy.

On 1 September, Bear Scat creator Steve Kirkham posted an open letter on the service's website urging students to contact the SU to let them know their feelings on the SU's decision. Councillors were then inundated with messages from concerned students both for and against their decision.

However, many councillors that were in favour of the motion didn't think this decision should fall to

students, either through a referendum or a plebiscite, noting they aren't necessarily informed enough about the issue.

"We don't think it should have to come to [a plebiscite]," Dollansky said. "We think Council is elected for a reason—they're elected to become informed on the issues, and they should be able to look at the other options that are available to them that are superior to that and choose the appropriate path."

However Samuel disagrees with this assumption, stating that a well-formulated plebiscite question would be a good course to pursue.

"I think it's important to establish a plebiscite that says, 'Does the student body want the Students' Union to pay for Bear Scat?' I think that's a more powerful plebiscite."

Both Samuel and the rest of the Executive agreed that the establishment of a Dedicated Fee Unit (DFU) would not be the best course of action to take.

"DFUs aren't ideal," Dollansky stated. "We need to pursue all of the other options that are far more favourable before we even get to that. I don't think we should rule it out at this point, but there are definitely many more options that are for superior to DFUs."

Shortly before 10pm, the question on the motion was put and passed 21-7—though many councillors noted they were voting for it with much hesitation.

"Council spoke tonight and said that they're willing to see me work to try to broker a deal to save Bear Scat," Janz

said following the meeting.

Kirkham said he was pleased by Council's decision, and would be willing to reopen talks to find a way to save the popular registration alternative.

"Definitely one of the prerequisites for any further discussions was the repeal of the clause in the political policy that successfully occurred last night," he said.

Kirkham further explained that Michael Janz had been in touch with him recently and had made it clear that the SU was interested in keeping Bear Scat around in its current form.

Though he indicated that he would like to further upgrades Bear Scat to increase its functionality, Kirkham accepted the SU's decision as a reasonable solution to try to keep Bear Scat operating to serve students.

"It's not my favourite solution ... but I understand the Students' Union's position and am definitely willing to reach some sort of compromise to ensure that at the end of the day, students can still use Bear Scat and aren't affected by the disabling of certain functions like we saw over the last couple of weeks."

Though clearly disappointed, Samuel accepted Council's decision to repeal the final line of the political policy.

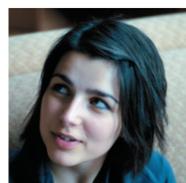
"Students' Council, in all its wisdom, made the decision to work with Steven to try to find funds to ensure that Bear Scat continues operating," he said.

"Hopefully students will understand my position, why I took it, and why I felt so strongly."

STREETERS

The weekend is approaching and, as you may be aware, it contains a Sunday.

What's your perfect Sunday?

Compiled and photographed by
Scott Fenwick and Paul Owen**Dena Samini**
Psychology II**Kelby Wartars**
Science I**Darius Dstouri**
Science II**Garret Kinjerski**
Arts II

Sleeping in. That feels pretty good.

No studying at all; chilling with some friends, eating pizza maybe.

Just relaxing all day with nothing to do—no homework, and sleeping in.

Not going to church. Ever.

**ALL
ABOARD
the party
TRAIN**8101-103 st. **whyte ave**