

Le lundi 10 septembre 2018

Par courriel

Fédération étudiante de l'Université d'Ottawa
85 University private, pièce 07
Ottawa, ON K1N 8Z4

Université d'Ottawa
Cabinet de la
secrétaire générale
University of Ottawa
Office of the Secretary-General
613-562-5950
www.uOttawa.ca
550 Cumberland (208)
Ottawa ON K1N 6N5
Canada

Attention : Rizki Rachiq, Président
Paige Booth, Vice-présidente aux affaires externes
Axel Gaga, Vice-président aux opérations
Katheryn Zwierzchowski, Vice-présidente aux affaires internes
Faduma Weis, Vice-présidente aux affaires sociales
Caroline Wu, Vice-présidente à l'équité

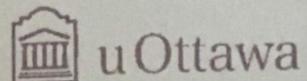
Objet : Fédération étudiante de l'Université d'Ottawa (FÉUO)

Mesdames, messieurs,

Nous vous remercions de nous avoir rencontrés mercredi dernier pour entendre et pour réagir aux préoccupations sérieuses de l'Université vis-à-vis des événements récents et des allégations de déficiences en matière de gouvernance et de gestion soulevées à l'égard du comité exécutif et de la direction de la FÉUO. Cette rencontre faisait suite à la lettre que vous adressait Michel Guilbeault, vice-recteur associé vie-étudiante le 31 août dernier; nous réitérons tous les éléments de cette lettre et nous vous demandons de mettre en place les mesures nécessaires pour rétablir le lien de confiance avec l'Université, lequel est essentiel à la poursuite de nos relations.

L'Université s'attend à ce que la FÉUO agisse en application des principes de bonne gouvernance et de saine gestion de manière transparente et responsable. Suivant ces principes et sans limiter la généralité de ce qui précède, l'Université s'attend, par exemple, à ce que :

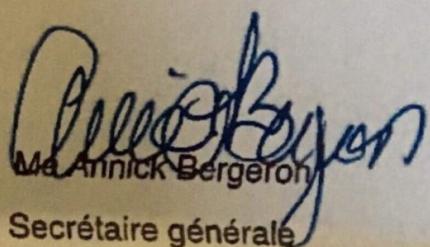
- i. toutes les personnes directement ou indirectement visées par les allégations de fraude et de mauvaise gestion se retirent de leurs fonctions pendant toute la durée de l'enquête et jusqu'à l'adoption des mesures qui en découlent;
- ii. la FÉUO prenne toutes les dispositions nécessaires pour garantir un milieu de travail et d'étude au sein de son organisation exempt de toute forme de harcèlement ou d'intimidation;
- iii. la FÉUO collabore entièrement avec l'Université pour la gestion financière des frais étudiants, de bonne foi, avec transparence et intégrité.



Comme nous l'avons souligné au cours de notre rencontre, l'Université se réserve le droit, face à une absence de progrès notable et rapide dans la mise en place de pratiques congruentes avec les principes de la bonne gestion, de vous faire parvenir sans autre avertissement un préavis de trois mois de résiliation de l'entente de 2012 entre la FÉUO et l'Université d'Ottawa.

De plus, nous rappelons vouloir être informés du nom de la firme retenue pour effectuer la vérification juricomptable de même que de la teneur de son mandat et des résultats éventuels, y compris les recommandations, les mesures proposées, et les actions prises.

Veuillez agréer, mesdames, messieurs, l'expression de nos sentiments les meilleurs.


Mme Annick Bergeron
Secrétaire générale

c.c. David Graham., Vice-recteur aux études et provost
Michel Guilbeault, Vice-recteur associé à la vie étudiante



uOttawa

Université d'Ottawa
Vice-recteur associé,
Vie étudiante

University of Ottawa
Associate Vice-President,
Student Life

August 31, 2018

Delivered by hand

Student Federation of the University of Ottawa
85 University Private, Room 07
Ottawa, ON K1N 8Z4

Attention: Rizki Rachiq, President
Paige Booth, Vice-President, External
Axel Gaga, Vice-President, Operations
Katheryn Zwierzchowski, Vice-President, Internal
Faduma Wais, Vice-President, Social
Caroline Wu, Vice-President, Equity

Re: Student Federation of the University of Ottawa (SFUO)

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

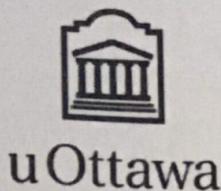
This letter is a follow-up to the University of Ottawa's letter to the members of the SFUO Executive dated July 30, 2018 with respect to allegations of financial mismanagement at the SFUO, in which the University requested that the SFUO conduct a forensic audit.

We understand that the SFUO Board of Administration has since decided to conduct an audit in connection with the allegations of financial mismanagement at the SFUO. In our letter and in subsequent meetings with SFUO representatives, the University requested that the SFUO consult with it on the SFUO's choice of firm to conduct the audit, on the scope of such audit, and provide us with the forensic audit report.

You provided a copy of the Request for Proposals for the forensic audit on August 29th, 2018, and I acknowledge receipt with thanks. I note, however, that the University has not yet been consulted regarding the scope and the selection process for the eventual auditors.

It is essential that the University be satisfied concerning the soundness of the SFUO's management and governance. Protecting the interests of uOttawa students is of primary concern to the University. We therefore request that the SFUO Executive Committee meet with me, Provost Graham and Secretary-General Bergeron on September 5, 2018 at 2 p.m. in room 210 at Tabaret Hall, to discuss the choice of the firm and the conduct of the audit.

I must also inform you that the University has recently learned of additional allegations of improper governance, mismanagement, internal conflict and workplace misconduct within the SFUO.



Université d'Ottawa
Vice-recteur associé,
Vie étudiante

University of Ottawa
Associate Vice-President,
Student Life

Altogether, this places the relationship between the University and the SFUO in jeopardy and seriously impairs our confidence in the SFUO's abilities to meet its responsibilities to students and its contractual responsibilities under its July 2012 agreement with the University.

In the absence of action by the SFUO to alleviate the University's concerns and to demonstrate sound and transparent governance and management of all SFUO affairs and activities, the University reserves the right to take any or all of the following steps:

- a) it may, pursuant to the July 2012 agreement between the University and the SFUO, exercise its discretion and provide the SFUO with 3 months' written notice of termination of the agreement, thereby ceasing to recognize the SFUO as the sole association representing undergraduate students and ceasing to collect, on behalf of the SFUO, the SFUO membership fee from the students;
- b) it may require that the SFUO develop and provide to the University a plan to identify and implement measures to address all significant financial, governance and workplace issues at all levels of the SFUO, in order to demonstrate to the University and to the students at large that the SFUO is providing effective, accountable and transparent leadership and representation;
- c) it may take other steps, including suspension of all other activities between the University and SFUO.

We also emphasize that University representatives will be available for consultation as SFUO addresses these matters.

We continue to urge the SFUO to take steps to resolve these matters in order to provide effective representation of University of Ottawa students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Guilbeault".

Michel Guilbeault
Associate Vice-President, Student Life

c.c. David Graham, Vice-President, Academic and Provost

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July 30, 2018

Rizki Rachiq, President
Student Federation of the
University of Ottawa
85 University Private
Room 07
Ottawa, ON K1N 8Z4

Katheryn Zwierzchowski, Vice-
President, Internal
Student Federation of the
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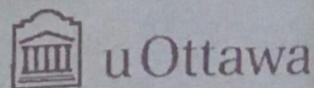
Caroline Lu, Vice-
President, Equity
Student Federation of
the University of Ottawa
85 University Private
Room 07
Ottawa, ON K1N 8Z4

Re: Allegations of financial mismanagement at the SFUO

Dear members of the Executive Committee,

The University of Ottawa has been made aware of allegations of financial mismanagement of student fee revenues involving certain members of the SFUO. We take these allegations seriously and wish first and foremost to protect the interest of our student body.

The University needs to ensure that student fees collected on behalf of the SFUO are used for legitimate and stipulated purposes, and must therefore be assured of the proper and responsible management of funds by the SFUO. Furthermore, you will recall that under the agreement between the University



of Ottawa and the SFUO, signed on July 8, 2012, the SFUO undertakes to ensure the sound management of its activities and to act responsibly and with transparency. The allegations of financial mismanagement made against certain members of the SFUO are serious and must be adequately addressed without delay.

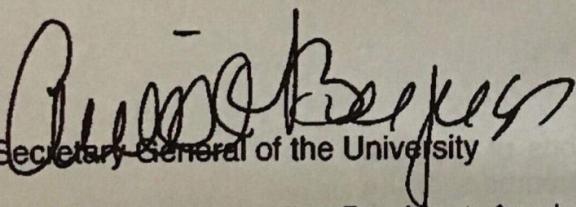
The University therefore expects that a forensic audit into the allegations of financial mismanagement of SFUO activities and student fee revenues will be conducted forthwith. The University further expects to be consulted on the choice of the firm appointed for the audit as well as the scope of the mandate and to receive a copy of the forensic audit report when it becomes available. Pending this audit, it is your responsibility to ensure that all documentation is preserved intact and unaltered and that you direct your staff not to destroy any potential evidence.

Effective immediately, the University of Ottawa will be withholding transfer payments of student fees to the SFUO. In order to ensure that services are maintained with a minimum of disruption and to preserve the interests of our students, the University will remit funds directly to service providers, including the health and dental insurance plans, OCTranspo (for the upass), the federated student bodies and clubs, and such other services as may legitimately be required.

These measures will remain in place until the completion of the forensic audit and until the University is satisfied that there are sound financial management practices in place and that appropriate controls have been implemented and are being respected.

The University offers its full support to the SFUO to resolve this matter and will take all steps necessary to safeguard students' services. Because of the urgency of this situation, we request your attendance at a meeting tomorrow at 2:30 pm in room 210 of Tabaret Hall with David Graham, VP Academic and Provost, Michel Guilbeault, AVP Student Services and myself to discuss this matter and decide on the next steps to be taken.

Sincerely,



Alain Bellemare
Secretary-General of the University

cc: David Graham, Vice-President, Academic and Provost