



Council of Alberta University Students
Private Donations to Universities
Policy #09-01

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta is a direct source of funding for research and development in Alberta via various boards, corporations and funds; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta seeks to increase the amount of research and development done in Alberta; and

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has focused on commercializing research over promoting natural inquiry; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students advocate to the Government of Alberta to develop research and development policies that:

- Ensure that the institution, the Government of Alberta and the individual researchers receive the benefit of owning the intellectual property produced from research when provincial public funds go toward the research either directly through provincial grants or indirectly through institutional grants that in turn support the research;
- Balance the distribution of research funds by including direct provincial support of the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences; and;
- Restrict conditions on donations, research grants or other activities designed to increase private sector control or ownership over intellectual property, educational material or educational curricula developed at Alberta's universities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students advocate to Alberta's public universities to only accept private donations and research grants that allow a balance between the protection of the individual researcher's, the institution's, and the Government of Alberta's intellectual property and the control or ownership of the private enterprise over the research and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Council of Alberta University Students recommend that the Government of Alberta demonstrate its staked interest in a knowledge-based economy by establishing a new, complimentary endowment for the Humanities and Social Sciences, modeled on the successful Alberta Innovates Fund, to foster Alberta's cultural and social environment.