

AFRICAN STUDENTS UNION - AFSU

To promote cultural awareness and diversity in the University of Alberta community

ORGANIZATION DESCRIPTION

The African students union, AFSU, is a student group that provides an engaging forum for all students of African descent and all those interested in issues of African concern in Edmonton. Our objective is to initiate programs of special interest to African students with a view of articulating a progressive African position and generating informed support for African development. Membership of the Union is open to all students, alumni and Faculty of the University of Alberta, and to any persons within and outside the University who express a genuine interest in the principles and objectives of AFSU and are ready to adhere to the aims and objectives of the Union

AFSU FOCAL ISSUES

1. To demystify the intrigue surrounding Africans and Africa in general. We need to educate the wider populace on what Africa is all about so as to dispel some of the misconceptions and generalizations.
2. To provide an avenue to discuss cultural, social and political issues that affect Africa. We shall encourage the sharing of tradition and culture as well as views between different African countries. We also plan to engage in socially enriching activities.
3. Host renowned African leaders for talks and lectureships on issues of African interest.
4. Welcome new students and help them settle into their academic life at various educational institutions in Edmonton.

BENEFITS OF AFSU

For Students:

1. Interact with students who share the same cultural and social background, to mitigate that homesickness so apparent in most international students.
2. Interact with other cultures and thereby foster a truly multicultural experience on campus.

3. Provide a forum to discuss topics of African and world relevance as well as exchange ideas on how to tackle various issues affecting students.
4. Provide a buffering interface for new students arriving to study in Edmonton.
5. Increase the social welfare and interactive space of all students by promoting community and social events.

For Faculty:

1. Provide mentorship and role models to be emulated.
2. Increase the interaction space beyond the classroom such that learning becomes a formation.
3. Learn about different cultures and ways of life.
4. AFSU will often invite faculty members to give lectures and keynote speeches at various forums and this will serve as a source of knowledge transfer.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE

AFSU is a volunteer based organization and the services provided will be free of charge. AFSU will depend on member contributions, SU funds and other sources of funding available. Several avenues of fundraising will be sought as deemed appropriate.