

# COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

July 21, 2015 6.00pm SUB 0-48

# **AGENDA (CAC 2015-06)**

2015-06/1	INTRODUCTION
2015-06/1a	Call to Order
2015-06/1b	Approval of Agenda
2015-06/1c	Approval of Minutes
2015-06/1d	Chair's Business
2015-06/2	OLD BUSINESS
2015-06/2a	Student at Large Positions.
2015-06/2b	July event.
2015-06/2c	Attendance Policy.
2015-06/2d	Standing Orders format.
2015-06/3	NEW BUSINESS
2015-06/3b	Town Halls.
2015-06/4	<u>DISCUSSION</u>
2015-06/4a	Council Street Team at WoW

2015-06/4b Councillor Birthday Cards
2015-06/4c Students' Council Survey.
Please see CAC 15-06.01
2015-06/5 CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING DATE
2015-06/5a Tuesday August 4th, 2015 @ 6.00pm in SUB 0-48.
2015-06/6 ADJOURNMENT

# Students' Council Surveys: Beginning of Term 2015-2016

- 1) What do you feel are some key accomplishments of Council last year?
- 2) What do you hope to accomplish on Students' Council this year?
- 3) What do you think is the biggest challenge in getting it done?
- 4) What do you expect to learn from Students' Council this year?
- 5) What kinds of professional development sessions for Councillors would you be interested in?
- 6) Do you have any constructive criticism for the speaker?
- 7) Do you feel comfortable speaking on council? Why or Why not?
- 8) Do you plan on staying in contact with your Faculty Association throughout the year?
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No
- 9) If yes, how will you accomplish staying in contact with your Faculty Association?
  - i. Attending Faculty Association meetings
  - ii. Reading Faculty Association emails
  - iii. Attending Faculty Association events
  - iv. Meeting with Faculty Association executives
  - v. I have no plans to be in contact with my Faculty Association
  - vi. Other
- 10) How much do you know about your Faculty Association on a scale of 1 to 10?
- 11) Have you met or been in contact with your Faculty Association?
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No
- 12) How much do you know about the Students' Union on a scale of 1 to 10?
- 13) What can be done better to prepare you for Students' Council meetings?
  - i. Detailed information briefs
  - ii. Meetings with other councillors outside of Students' Council
  - iii. Ongoing discussion outside of Students' Council
  - iv. Not applicable
  - v. Other
- 14) What is your biggest barrier to attending Students' Council meetings?
  - i. Lack of time
  - ii. Parking
  - iii. Late meetings
  - iv. Location of meetings

- v. Not applicable
- vi. Other
- 15) What is your biggest barrier to participating in Students' Council meetings?
  - i. Knowing Robert's Rules of Order
  - ii. Not knowing enough to make an informed decision
  - iii. Intimidated by other members' knowledge
  - iv. Issues discussed having little effect on constituents
  - v. Running out of speaking turns
  - vi. I participate fully in Council meetings
  - vii. Other
- 16) Do you feel prepared to represent your faculty's interests at Students' Council meetings?
  - i. Yes
  - ii. No



# **COMMITTEE**

# Tuesday July 7, 2015 6:00 pm **SUB 0-48**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Bo Zhang		Y
Jared Burton		N
Victoria Dejong		Y
Donald Ademaj		Y
Justis Allard		N
Kevin Wang		Y
Vivian Kwan		N
Cody Bondarchuk		Y
Levi Flaman		Y
Brandon Christensen		Y
Ben Angus		Y
Navneet Khinda		Y
Fahim Rahman		Y

# **MINUTES (CAC 2015-05)**

2015-05/1 **INTRODUCTION** 

2015-05/1a Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 18:03.

#### 2015-05/1b Approval of Agenda

WANG/DEJONG move to approve the agenda.

10/0/0 CARRIED

#### 2015-05/1c Approval of Minutes

ADEMAJ/WANG move to approve the minutes.

7/0/3 CARRIED

#### 2015-05/1d Chair's Business

ZHANG thanked councilors who participated in Council's June event. The extra cost of \$30 will be split between councilors who backed out last minute. The committee agreed to this decision.

#### **2015-05/2 OLD BUSINESS**

# **2015-05/2a** Student at Large Positions

ZHANG decided to create a working group to figure out the details of Student at Large position and asked the committee who is interested to join this group. DEJONG, BURTON, ADEMAJ and ZHANG are part of this group. The group will decide the timeline for this initiative.

RAHAMAN asked the committee what do they plan to do with this position. ZHANG explained that this idea is initial so the committee wants to investigate the reasoning for other university's to have such a position.

RAHMAN concerned that this initiative overlaps with Governance Review Task Force and he wants to avoid duplicating efforts.

ZHANG explained that they can split the workload and share the research information.

RAHMAN welcomed everyone who can participate in the discussed but concerned that this is such a big change in standing orders, and he wants to see proper consultation.

KHINDA asked about what the committee discussed in the last meeting. ZHANG summarized the discussion and concluded that more research needs to be done before having more discussion.

CHRISTENSEN commented that the committee in general favored to have Student at Large position but the point of contention is in whether this position has voting power.

ADEMAJ talked to some councilors and they are all in favor of having this position as non-voting member.

RAHMAN explained that he is uncomfortable because firstly this is a big change in the governance of SU and secondly this working group is taking away the jurisdiction of Governance Review Task Force. ZHANG argued that having this task force does not prevent other committees in doing governance related issue.

KHINDA asked why do they need Student at Large position. ZHANG explained the need comes from engaging students, and other universities have this position so he wants to look into the rationale and report it to CAC. ZHANG also thinks that since many universities have this position, this provides SU a base to work with. KHINDA doubted that since governance style differs amongst university, she concerned that this might not be suitable for U of A.

KHINDA concerned that students might not be interested in committee business and so in the Student at Large position, and feared that this might not be the best method to engage students. She hoped to see this in the research.

ANGUS provided some other idea in engaging students. He suggested having residence representative in Council as non-voting members. ZHANG welcomed any idea in engaging more student in SU.

#### **2015-05/3 NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2015-05/3a** Attendance Policy

The committee looked at the first principle from Bylaw committee, and Bylaw committee wanted to work with CAC in this policy.

BONDARCHUK suggested putting the consequence of not attending Council in the first principle, as it becomes symbolic if there is no solid consequence. The committee discussed the wording of how to put it in place. ZHANG suggested that "consequence" implies punishment, so he suggested there should be mechanism to ensure proper representation. BONDARCHUK agreed to this reasoning and this policy is more about proper representation. WANG suggested since this is first principle, the wording should be board enough. KHINDA suggested doing the first principle in reverse, knowing first the mechanism and then work backward for the wording.

KHINDA suggested having some proactive measure to prevent councilors absent from meetings. ANGUS also suggested having a discussion for the reason of not attending Council and then work out the consequences. ZHANG provided the committee an example from the University of Calgary. Reason of excuse includes medical emergency, family emergency, religious commission and required course component schedule.

DEJONG concerned about privacy issue. Councilors might not be able to attend Council because of personal issue and the councilor might not be willing to share the issue to Council, so she suggested the committee should address this. ZHANG explained that the issue will be dealt with in camera so the privacy issue will not be recorded. He also reasoned that when elected, councilors become in some sense public figures, so their absence deserved explanation.

KHINDA agreed that Council should hold councilors for accountability, but she is not convinced that Council should impose consequence to absent councilors. She also argues that U of C example might not apply to U of A because U of A councilors are volunteers while U of C ones are paid position.

FLAMAN concerned that councilor might not be willing to expel councilors from the same faculty. ADEMAJ agreed as there might be potential conflict of interest. He also does not agree to recall

election as voter turnout is low. Beside, he concerned that speaking councilors to step down is a form of public shaming. ANGUS also feared that expelling councilors might tear the Council apart. Therefore, ZHANG suggested having the Speaker to talk to absented councilors. ADEMAJ agreed to this suggestion.

FLAMAN suggested instead of focusing on how to punish absented councilors, the committee should look at why the attendance is low. ZHANG explained that research had been done to find out the reason, but it is hard for SU to implement anything to address councilors' issue as they vary.

ADEMAJ questioned the need of attendance policy as the attendance is better now. ZHANG explained that Bylaw Committee wants to prepare for future to guarantee a minimum level of engagement.

ZHANG will bring the committee's opinion to Bylaw committee.

#### **2015-05/3b** July Event

ZHANG suggested learning from experience to organize drop-in events instead of requiring commitment as they are easier to organize. BONDARCHUK recommended organizing low-cost event.

FLAMAN suggested going to watch Bears' football game.

ADEMAI suggested Heritage Festival.

ZHANG suggested Taste of Edmonton.

WANG suggested Slide the City and picnic.

KHINDA suggested potluck.

The committee chose to go picnic or potluck or Heritage days for council event. ZHANG will do a doodle pool to see other councilors' opinion.

# **2015-05/3c** Mileage Reimbursement

BONDARCHUK wants to add an official policy to govern reimbursement for Augustana councilors to attend meetings.

According to a former Augustana councilor, the previous mileage reimbursement is too generous.

FLAMAN asked about the feedback from the former Augustana. BONDARCHUK stated that the councilor looked at the draft and agreed, especially about point 47. The councilor thinks that using alternative method does not lose a lot in meeting. DEJONG feared that this clause might discourage Augustana councilor for joining committees. BONDARCHUK stated it could happen but using Skype is the best option as driving is too troublesome for them.

BONDARCHUK/ADEMAJ move to amend Council Administration Committee Standing Orders to include a mileage reimbursement policy for Augustana councilors.

8/0/0 CARRIED

#### **2015-05/4 DISCUSSION**

# **2015-05/4a** Standing Orders Format

The committee looked at the format of standing orders that Discover Governance wants to implement across the committees. This will make standing orders more consistent and better. DG wants CAC's opinion.

ZHANG thinks the format is very consistent and includes everything, however different committee has different function so he is not sure about it.

BONDARCHUK understands the point but he also sees the problem. Different committee serves different purposes and the structure is also different. The standing orders might become messy and unclear when using the same format. He likes to see the similar format of agenda and minutes but not standing orders. But he agreed to review standing orders. He thinks it is best to have uniformity in content instead of structure. WANG also agreed to have uniformity in content.

#### **2015-05/4b** Council Photos

DEJONG stated that councilors still have not completed their photo.

### **2015-05/4c** Council Sweater

ZHANG asked about who takes up Elizabeth's job during her vacation. BONDARCHUK answered that he should contact Gloria.

ZHANG also asked about the new logo design and questioned that why there is no consultation with Council. BONDARCHUK answered that they want to have a more defined idea before presenting it to Council. They will produce two options for Council to consider. BONDARCHUK wants to do it right instead of rush through it.

### **2015-05/4d** Update on Week of Welcome

ZHANG updated that Council will no longer do a video for WoW, instead there will be orientation slide about Council.

Councilors will also have passes to go to events. WANG concerned that the passes might confer bad image for councilors. ANGUS suggested giving guideline of behavior to councilors and asked CAC, Council and VP Student Life to consider. ADEMAJ suggested giving a presentation to Council for this.

BONDARCHUK explained that only staff knows there are tickets, so there will be no negative impact on students' perception on Council. And he likes the idea of giving out guidelines. He also explained that the purpose of tickets is for statistics.

# **2015-05/4e** SLACK

FLAMAN asked about the committee's opinion on SLACK.

WANG thinks that it has similar function as Whatsapp. ZHANG thinks that it is not very useful and it did not add anything more. DEJONG commented that Whatsapp and email can do the same thing, so she does not see the point in using it. BONDARCHUK also had the same opinion.

2015-05/5 CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING DATE

**2015-05/5a Next Meeting:** Tuesday July 7th, 2015 @ 6:00pm in SUB 0-48

**2015-05/6 ADJOURNMENT** 

**2015-05/6a** BONDARCHUK /DEJONG move to adjourn.

6/0/0 CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 19:28.

# **SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

MOTION	VOTES
WANG/DEJONG move to approve the agenda.	10/0/0 - CARRIED
ADEMAJ/WANG move to approve the minutes.	7/0/3 - CARRIED
BONDARCHUK/ADEMAJ move to amend Council Administration Committee Standing Orders to include a mileage reimbursement policy for Augustana councilors.	8/0/0 - CARRIED
BONDARCHUK /DEJONG move to adjourn.	6/0/0 - CARRIED