



**FINANCE  
COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, March 6, 2018  
4:00 PM  
SUB 0-48**

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory.

We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Métis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Sioux territory; specifically the ancestral space of the Papaschase Cree. These Nations are our family, friends, faculty, staff, students, and peers. As members of the

University of Alberta Students' Union we honour the nation-to-nation treaty relationship. We aspire for our learning, research, teaching, and governance to acknowledge and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

**ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Robyn Paches (Chair)		Y	
Connor Palindat		Y	
James Thibaudeau		N	
Darren Choi		Y	
Abigail Bridarolli		N	N
Delane Howie		N	
Habba Mahal		Y	
Monica Lillo		N	N
Ilya Ushakov		N	
Lane Anderson		Y	VIA PHONE CALL
Robert Bilak		Y	
Jonathan Barraclough		Y	
Kristin LaGrange (SGS)		Y	

**AGENDA (FC 2017-12)**

**2017-12/1     INTRODUCTION**

**2017-12/1a Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 4:04 PM.

PACHES: Some individuals from SGS will come to talk for a minute.

**2017-12/1b Approval of Agenda**

**PACHES MOVES TO APPROVE the Agenda**

**5/0/1**

**MAHAL ABSTAINS**

**2017-12/1c Approval of Minutes**

**BILAK - typo from previous meeting**

**PACHES/PALINDAT MOVE to approve the Minutes**

**7/0/0**

**2017-12/1d Chair's Business**

**2017-12/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2017-12/3a Budget Principles**

FC-2017-12.04

PACHES: This will be a standing item in discussion period.

CHOI: I've heard a couple of ppl ask about money to improve the space on the main floor around the fireplaces. A suggestion regarding the couches on the main floor compared to the ones in the atrium.

PACHES: I can provide some insight. Regarding the Casino Funds if you're a NFP (Not-For-Profit) designation, through Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission, when you work at a casino you get a cut of the earnings split that's given to NFP. We do the max, 2 years and we get anywhere from 80-100K but it's treated as a debt, not real money, and to be paid for certain types of things EG. approved for student services, our furniture in the building will be refurbished from the casino proceeds. We had industrial design students have furniture proposals. Yes, it will happen. It won't be put into budget. I did attach page 18 as last year's principles to use that as a jumping point. We are making a new department in response to our growing need for catering so we'll transform our program and events. The campus activities board has just been operating out of project allocation - will create a budget line for that. We're also exploring how we use sponsorship, we don't have a platform for that right now, so we might work into

the budget a small amt to give to charities/fundraisers. We're leading toward non-student groups because student groups have groups. EG. Augustana's Round Dance, we'll see if we can create a pot of money for that. Other than that, it's not a very busy year as far as principles go. RE conferencing events - will have a client focused department, we don't reach out and try to make sales and with the commercial kitchen, we need to increase our revenue. So our conferencing events will have more of a sales perspective. We haven't hired any of these individuals yet. We hired 1 because that's enough with the capacity we have right now. The multiple will be brought on if the student events' initiative passes.

BILAK: Point 26. Is that almost redundant? Wouldn't the fund already be available?

PACHES: We will still make resources available for fundraisers. If the events initiative passes, then we will hit turbo to go into fundraising, we can go to donors and ask for help. But that will be edited.

CHOI: After the elections, do budget principles ever get edited to reflect some new priorities/execs?

PACHES: Not in the past, does not advise this way. Every year we do budget allocation for the initiatives. The budget is for the yearly, annual predictable operations.

PALINDAT: Point 16, given that the new website coming. Has the SU thought about having the website in French?

Paches: I'm not sure.

PALINDAT: CSL projects? They're looking for more projects and given that SU is non-profit so it's a good idea to have French translation done as a CSL projection.

Paches: (AGREES). I really like that idea. I love engaging. We got a group working for Dewey's promos. I'm all for saving money and engaging students. I will strive to have these next meeting.

**2017-12/3**

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

**2017-12/3a**

**PACHES/CHOI MOVES** to approve the 2018/19 Golden Bears and Pandas Legacy Fund disbursement as presented.

**7/0/0 CARRIED**

See the *Student Council Google Drive Folder* and FC-2017-12.02.

PACHES: This is a granting DFU, they gave us a disbursement request. Attached is their recommended disbursement, and raw application on the google drive. (Has to double check if this can be made public but does not recommend this as it's confidential information.) Ilya, myself, Cody, Ashley are all students voting on this. There's a certain amount we have to allocate every year into this and the priority of the evaluations were: the need of the group, how much their application would engage more than just the team. The team gets graded on a point system of their community involvement, and their involvement in other team sports. EG. Hockey team going to watch Panda's hockey game. This year, we were very strict in participation. EG. For Bear's hockey, they applied for a lot of money wanted 8K but we only gave them 4K because they were in the bottom 2 for participation. If you're not giving back and benefiting students, then we can't give you the money. Bears hockey is the biggest, with a huge alumni network, sponsorships, etc so this won't affect them.

CHOI: It says they requested 25k

PACHES: The athletic staff reviews and recommended 8K but we don't wait that, We cut it into 4K. We debated on the recommendations.

CHOI: It's a big jump for Panda's volleyball - 16K to 9K.

PACHES: Some of them will ask for the sky and hope they get a bit. But sometimes things will ask for things that aren't eligible but we don't approve the parts that aren't knowledgeable.

BARRACLOUGH: I don't have access to this file.

PACHES: Reviews the budget) At the end of 16-17, we had a sizeable reserve so we've been giving a little bit more the past couple years bc we had too big of a reserve.

CHOI: Too much money builds up overtime, does it decrease Panda's DFU?

PACHES: it's in their ballpark.

**2017-12/3b**

**PACHES/MAHAL MOVES** to adopt the Student Group Services (SGS) amendments to the Finance Committee Standing Orders, pertaining to the *Student Granting Program*.

**7/0/0 CARRIED**

See FC-2017-12.04

Kristin LaGrange: SGS programming, we oversee the granting program that

adjudicates grant applications. The current way we've been doing that is that there's been 4 different streams but we noticed Student Groups (SGs) get confused about activating and starting groups. Starting vs. Re-start grants but we want to change it to an operating grants in case a SG needs funding to stay afloat as opposed to having them fold and stay dormant to have access to that funding. Under section 13, we've taken out the 4 other streams, the operations grant will be accessible to any SG with SU recognition for \$500 vs. Before max \$450 and apply within the first 2 years. The idea is that if your SG is struggling, you can apply for a grant. Other major changes was to the make-up of the committee, the dean of students have seats on the committee, the student engagement fund was taken away so in practice, we haven't had any representation. We also wanted to make sure it's reflected in the policy.

PACHES: We got the wrong one attached to the agenda.

PALINDAT: Will the grants from January be released?

Kristin: Yes. We had the adjudication meeting on Saturday so probably Friday.

PACHES: The idea of doing the restart grant is an awesome idea because SGs are scraping by because alternative revenue option right now aren't good. I anticipate if you widely advertise this then it will be your largest application.

Kristin: The event grant will combine the current activity and conference grants. The main difference will be a slightly different set of questions. We would want to know if they're planning it, if they're sending people for something. The other big change the granting committee has changed was the cumulative maximum. Before there was a 3k cap but on average they've seen most SGs don't need that much and with the pot being much smaller because we want to give out as many grants as possible, we lowered it to 2K.

PALINDAT: RE the reduction, but the student event initiative encourages students to host larger events , kinda contradictory?

Kristin: It will be a separate category.

PACHES: Once that passes, let's cross that bridge. How come you decided on \$500 for every 2 years?

Kristin: We didn't want students to develop dependency on that fund, it was more of a round number vs. \$450.

PACHES: I'm in favour of this. Why not 1000? Keep it at 2 years but I think 1000.

PALINDAT: For the average SG, mine's an outlier.

PACHES: All business clubs are outliers.

PALINDAT: The average club that just does bake sales, \$500 seems reasonable.

Kristin: The one other thing the \$500 came from was when SGs register for recognition, we ask them for a range of the budget. Some SG have a budget that run 750-1K.

PACHES: Do you have that data? Can you access it for the committee depending on if we have to make a decision for SEI grants.

BARRACLOUGH: I agree with Robyn that it's a max \$1000 but not everyone will need 1K. Let's say a big business gp will want to run a big event then being able to provide another 1K will help.

Kristin: That will fall under Event grants vs. Operation grants for more posters, advertising. That's where the 2K grant will come in.

BARRACLOUGH: : Let's say they want ppl to attend something or get involved, want more people to be engaged. I agree with Robyn for 1K.

CHOI: f we bump it up to \$1000, everyone will ask for that max unless we have some vigorous procedure for \$1000.

PALINDAT: I'm the president for a SG, I would never apply for a grant for \$500. Give the amount of labour, it doesn't justify for \$500.

PACHES: For scholarships, if it's lower than 1K then ppl wont apply for scholarships.

PALINDAT: To be fair, my SG got a grant in the summer but no one told us until Feb.

BILAK: A happy medium for \$750. I think I'm with the \$1000 also. They can apply for it if they need it

ANDERSON: I'm more on the \$500 side.

MAHAL: I think \$1000 for SG in Science, they get funding from us in ISSS. They can do so much more if they have extra funding.

BILAK: Do FAs count as SGs?

Kristin: Yes.

BARRACLOUGH: 1K gives a little more wiggle room because we have such a wide spread of group sizes.

Kristin: The asks depend on how they score on our 4 point scale rubric. We will prorate it depending on what bracket they fall into.

BARRACLOUGH: Is there wiggle room in that or is it set in stone that they get that money?

Kristin: It depends on the committee, if they want to change how they score.

CHOI: All the groups that score above a certain threshold got above their ask?

Kristin: If they scored above 2.5, they would get it. With the operating, we changed it to be prorated vs a YES/NO.

CHOI: That kinda neglects the fact of the actual size of the SG.

Kristin: That's where the question on the apps will come in and the rubrics. We think about the diversity in the SG. It's on a rubric and it's a competitive process.

BILAK: What's the process to get this ratified for a pass?

PACHES: I changed my mind because it's easier to give more than take away so if we go into a \$1000 then the word spreads and if we find out it's taking out a lot from a budget then it will look negatively on the SU. I'm more on the 500 side because it's a new type of grant then we can see how it goes, get feedback. It's much easier to start at \$500 and increase.

BARRACLOUGH: So you're saying as written here and to be re-analyzed next year.

PACHES: Either this year or if SEI passes.

\*\*\*THIS IS A PROVISION. THIS WILL BE REVISITED.\*\*\*

Kristin: We've given 9 startup grants and on avg - 360, they don't always ask for the full amount.

BARRACLOUGH: What was the rationale?

Kristin: If we have 10 groups applying for 3K max vs. There's fewer grants and we want to give out more grants to support more SGs. For our Fall adjudication period, SGs applying for grants in Sept were applying to fund events in the winter. Almost half were eligible but we were only giving out 15 of them due to funding limitations.

BILAK: For 29, you'll have an idea of the funds. Are you tracking funds?

Kristin: They have to explain what they money is for, if they spend less then they

must return. Before, it was just a report but nothing about consequences so we flushed that. The consequences are - when a group receives funding, we'll tell them when their cheque is ready and give a deadline to submit a grant report. If they miss that deadline then they can't apply for a grant for 4 years. In theory, it's a whole turnover of a SG before they can apply for a grant. If a group has a bad transition, we have an alternative report they have to provide us evidence as they have no idea re the previous grant then the granting committee will review.

MAHAL: How often do SGs not use all the funds they've been given?

Kristin: Not frequently. Most often - they don't have to return funds,

CHOI: If SEI passes, is that 100K an entirely separate process from normal student group funds?

PACHES: Will be a project for spring/summer. It will be \$6000 x 4.17 so the first granting period mostly likely won't happen until next year. The preliminary foreseeing is creating another category for this.

**2017-12/4**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2017-12/4a**

FC-2017-11, Meeting Minutes

See FC-2017-11.01

**2017-12/4b**

Legacy Fund Requests (2018/19)

*Available on the Students' Council Google Drive Folder.*

**2017-12/4c**

Golden Bear Panda Legacy Fund (GBPLF) *Meeting Minutes* (January 25, 2018)

See FC-2017-11.02

**2017-12/4d**

Student Group Services (SGS) Amendments - Finance Committee Standing Orders, *Student Granting Program*

See FC-2017-12.03

**2017-12/4e**

Budget Principles

FC-2017-12.04

**2017-12/5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2017-12/5a**

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, March 20, 2018 @ 4:00PM in SUB 6-06.



Meeting adjourned at 4:54 PM.

Message DG re a list of the committee to email everyone the agenda. NOT everyone received the agenda.

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
<b>PACHES MOVES TO APPROVE the Agenda.</b>	5/0/1 MAHAL ABSTAINS CARRIED.
<b>PACHES/PALINDAT MOVE to approve the Minutes</b>	7/0/0 CARRIED.
<b>PACHES/CHOI MOVES</b> to approve the 2018/19 Golden Bears and Pendas Legacy Fund disbursement as presented.	7/0/0 CARRIED.
<b>PACHES/MAHAL MOVES</b> to adopt the Student Group Services (SGS) amendments to the Finance Committee Standing Orders, pertaining to the <i>Student Granting Program</i> .	7/0/0 CARRIED.