



POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

2014 - 2015 # 03

Date: May 27, 2014

Time: 6:48 pm

In Attendance:

Stephanie Gruhlke (Chair)

Colin Champagne

Bo Zhang

Surya Bhatia

Nicholas Diaz

Navneet Khinda

Kathryn Ordzuk

Excused Absence:

Bashir Mohamed

Justis Allard

Others in Attendance:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by *GRUHLKE* at 6:48 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CHAMPAGNE moved that the *May 27* agenda be approved as *tabled*.
Seconded by *DIAZ*.

Vote on Motion 7 / 0 / 0
CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ZHANG amended minutes to change "Nicholas Dias" to "Nicholas Diaz" in attendance.
ZHANG moved that the *May 13* minutes be approved as *amended*.
The motion was seconded by *KHINDA*.

Vote on Motion 7 / 0 / 0
CARRIED.

4.

GRUHLKE wanted to discuss which policy the committee wants to work on

ANNOUNCEMENTS first in this meeting and she wanted to know the goals of the executives.

She also wants to make a schedule over the summer of which policy the committee is going to discuss. KHINDA suggests putting priority on the policies which are expiring.

GRUHLKE wants to talk about Fall Reading Week, because the policy is going to expire in 2015.

DIAZ inherited the Internationalization materials from LAU but some points on the Internationalization Policy need to be worked on. GRUHLKE would like to work on them this summer.

DIAZ is looking forward to get a report from advocacy department on residence issues, which takes some time to handle, so he hopes to discuss Residences or Affordable Housing in one of the meeting in August.

5. PRESENTATIONS

6. EXECUTIVE GOAL REPORT

i. VP External

Before she talked about her goals, KHINDA wanted to clarify whether the committee decides which policies the Exec should work on or the Exec picks the policies. ORDZUK had the same question as well. The committee thinks that its members should decide which policies the Exec should work on but they would like to listen to the opinions of the Exec before making the decision.

KHINDA will provide a written goal report for the committee member if they want and she provides an oral report as follow:

- Student financial aids and making it an easier task for the University that covers all the issues such as tuition, MNIF, International Student Fees, student financial aids, grants and loans, etc.
- Student engagement in voting and campaigns, trying to get advance in polls on campus in provincial and federal elections, getting the students out to vote especially in two leadership races as well as the coming up general elections
- Working with VP Student Life on student residences, to protect students in residences
- Job opportunities, internships, co-op for students

KHINDA will provide the detail in the future.

ii. VP Student Life

There are three categories in DIAZ's goal: the quality of life for students, Health and Wellness,

In Health and Wellness:

- In terms of public working, he will try to find a larger health strategies for campus
- Addresses clinical versus social aspects in health care provision
- Finds a concrete timeline for mental health on campus, so reviewing Health and Wellness Policy
- Student space – he imagines students would like a central space in renovation
- Residence – the Affordable Housing Policy should become Residence Policy because it is more about the quality of the residence instead of how much it costs

iii. VP Academic

Most of the goals are related to student representative in the Students In Governance Policy.

- To create a council campus association as a new working group of campus faculty association
- To recognize departmental associations as student representative associations, it may not happen in bylaws but may be in terms of practice
- To make financial reporting easier for faculty associations, ensure that they have designated financial review each year
- To support International Student Association in terms of advocacy and anything they wanted to do in relation to Internationalization Policy
- To create an online petition system for students, so that they have a direct communication structure
- In terms of Quality Instruction Policy, ORDZUK is looking to standardize grading in departmental level. This ensures that department's grading policy to include rubrics or standardized grading mechanism for 100- and 200-level courses.
- In terms of Academic Materials Policy, she wanted to run again the Be Book Smart campaign.
- To create a service that allows students to borrow textbooks from the Students' Union, so that students can do their readings for free
- To revise the online textbook registry which is not up to par

7. QUESTION PERIOD

ZHANG asked that since some of the policies are expiring, does that mean to the Exec. GRUHLKE explained that it means nothing tie the Exec to the policies so they can go rogue. If the policies expire, the committee does not need to completely rewrite them. The committee can renew the policies even they are expired. KHINDA further explained that the expired policies are not dead; they are just inactive. But the committee still has the text of past policies in archive. Since the policies need to go through first and second readings, the second reading might end up the same as the expired one. However, the committee has to come up their first principle.

ZHANG also asked about the process of making policies. GRUHLKE explained the process.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

1. Student Space Policy

ORDZUK informed the committee that there are a lot of instances where the Students' Union had applied this policy to the University's renovation project.

ZHANG asked if the Students' Union need a policy asking for space that allows community building. He thinks that it might be something that the committee wants to put in the policy. CHAMPAGNE thinks that the fourth WHEREAS clause and the second BIFRT clause has included this idea without being too specific.

GRUHLKE brought the issue that after 11:30 pm students do not have access to any space on campus as all building shutdown, so if students do not live on campus they do not have access to study area past 11:30 pm until the libraries open, a big window.

The committee discussed the word of accessibility which has two meanings: first the physical accessibility to students; second the accessibility of the space to people with impaired mobility.

GRUHLKE would like the committee to have an agreed policy by Thursday 4 pm. BHATIA suggests the committee to brainstorm on the principles on the google document and discuss it in the meeting instead of creating a new one.

GRUHLKE will make a fold containing the policies the committee will talk during this summer and share it with every member. She will also email the calendar to committee members.

The committee will discuss MNIF and Health and Wellness policies in the next meeting. CAMPAGNE suggested contact Kareema Batal for Health and Wellness Policy as they should have finished first principles for Council.

KHINDA asked the committee if the Exec should provide a written report for every meeting. GRUHLKE is content with oral report as she knows that the Exec are busy but she prefers a written report.

10. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

The committee discussed about the schedule of policies.

ZHANG suggested the committee to discuss MNIF first.

KHINDA suggested putting priority on Student Loans as it may be changed to Student Financial Assistance to make it neater.

CAMPAGNE would like to do Health and Wellness Policy which can be finished very fast.

GRUHLKE thinks that the committee should talk about MNIF and Health

and Wellness try to produce first principles in the next meeting so that they can be brought to the Council meeting on June 17th. She also hopes to finish Student Loans in July 15th's meeting.

ZHANG suggests setting up a calendar for the committee to keep track of the agenda. GRUHLKE will make one.

KHINDA suggests committee members to read the policies and write down their comments on them. It will be a good starting point of the discussion.

Currently there are five policies going to expire next year: Academic Materials, Fall Reading Week, Food, Smoke Free Environment, and Sustainability. GRUHLKE suggests doing these five after finishing the already expired policies.

11. REPORTS

12. CLOSED SESSION

13. NEXT MEETING *June 10th, 2014*

14. ADJOURNMENT *GRUHLKE* moved that the meeting be adjourned.
The motion was seconded by *DIAZ*.
CARRIED.
Meeting adjourned at 7:33 *pm*.