

*University of Alberta Students' Union*  
**A G E N D A**

2013-2014/POLICY/14

## **Policy Committee**

**Date: January 14, 2014**

**Time: 6:00PM**

**Location: SUB 6-08**

### **1. Approval of the Agenda**

### **2. Approval of the Minutes**

*(Please review the attached minutes from November 26<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> 2013)*

### **3. Chair's Announcements**

- a. Not much left until the end of the term, only 6 more Policy meetings! (let's be strategic about what we want to accomplish)
- b. All of our meetings for the remainder of the term will be in **SUB 6-08** from **6:00PM – 8:00PM**

### **4. Presentations**

### **5. Executive Committee Reports**

Written/Oral Reports

- a. VP Student Life
- b. VP Academics
- c. VP External

*(See attached for submitted reports)*

### **6. Question Period**

### **7. Old Business**

- a. Scholarships & Bursaries: Second Reading Review  
*(Approved in **First Reading** on **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** based on the attached principles. See attached for proposed Second Reading draft)*
- b. Health & Wellness Policy Update: *Feedback form has been sent to student representatives across campus. Deadline to complete is **January 19<sup>th</sup>**. Will have First Reading principles drafted by next meeting.*

- c. Tuition Policy Update: *Petros agreed to join the task force. He is waiting to hear from us on an appropriate meeting time. Please respond to Doodle Poll sent by Kareema to set up a task force meeting asap.*
- d. Internationalization Policy Update: ***Where are we at?***

## **8. New Business**

## **9. Discussion**

*(If you have an item to discuss, please be prepared to open discussion and bring it to the table)*

- a. Appeals Policy.  
*The idea of an Appeals Policy was discussed briefly during the discussion about the Omar Khadr policy. **Shall we formalize our decision on pursuing this matter?***
- b. Leadership Policy.  
*Councillor Batal and Councillor Mlynarski met late December to discuss the idea of drafting a Leadership Policy that will formalize the SU's voice on leadership and what we should advocate for in terms of leadership initiatives on campus in light of the Leadership Initiative presentation we had at Council. **Is this a matter the PC would like to pursue?***

## **10. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting is scheduled for **January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:00 PM**

*(Please be prepared to confirm your schedule and/or provide justification for amending this time/date)*



## POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

2013 - 2014 # 12

**Date:** October 15, 2013

**Time:** 6:05 pm

**In Attendance:**

*Kareema Batal (Chair)*

*William Lau*

*Adam Woods*

*Kelsey Mills*

*Dustin Chelen*

*Colin Champagne*

*Natalia Binczyk*

*Bashir Mohamed*

**Excused Absence:**

*Dylan Hanwell*

**Others in Attendance:**

**1. CALL TO  
ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by *BATAL* at 6:05 pm.

**2. APPROVAL OF  
AGENDA**

*BINCZYK* moved that the *October 15* agenda be approved as *tabled*.  
Seconded by *MILLS*.

Vote on Motion 6 / 0 / 0  
*CARRIED*.

**3. APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

*BATAL* moved that the *October 1* minutes be approved as *tabled*.  
The motion was seconded by *WOODS*.

Vote on Motion 5 / 0 / 1  
*CARRIED*.

**4.  
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **5. PRESENTATIONS**

### **6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **a. VP Student Life**

LAU reports that the International Students Issues Town Hall will be held on October 18 at 6 pm in SUBstage. It will be a place for international students to discuss some of the issues they have. Issues discussed will help building the Internationalization Policy.

LAU invited staffs from Residence, International Centre, Office of the Dean of Students, ResLife and CAPS to help answering questions around.

Next Friday, October 25, will have the Legacy Game. It is approved to provide 500 free burgers for people who attend the game.

LAU reports the update for Student Group Policy changes. There are a few contentious issues about administration. LAU passed it on to Advocacy department and they will have a closed-door meeting with Norma Rodenburg, the Student Affairs Officer, to clarify the relationships between SU and the University over the past few months. The meeting will be held on Friday, October 18. LAU thinks Office of the Dean of Students does not understand SU's concerns and why the changes will have a great impact to SU. He hopes the conversation will go smoothly.

He collected all the feedbacks from different staff, either work operationally or politically with student groups, and will bring them to the meeting on Friday to have a more heated discussion.

He went to a retreat in Calgary to meeting with the Exec of University of Calgary and University of Lethbridge, and shares the key findings in the PC meeting. He likes the enthusiasm of U of C's VP Student Life and a group, which shows up on campus when there is an election, shouting chants to ask people to vote. And he likes that the U of C has voting station for 7 days, comparing to U of A's one day. The successful running of the dry tailgate party for athletic games where simply using face paint, and arts and crafts, is also something he wants to learn and pursue this year.

VP Student Affairs of U of L has an interesting relationship with student groups, managing student groups directly. LAU discusses with him about the pros and cons of this management. The greatest pro is that the position is elected so he has a different mindset managing student groups because he is directly accountable to them. The take away from this conversation is that what if the one who manages student groups and organization is elected, there will be a different mindset of treating student groups.

BATAL asks if it is possible to change the number of Exec. MILLS suggests that it can be change through the bylaw to create a new position. LAU then

points out that there is an idea of appointing a VP International to work and communicate with international students in the meeting about international student issues. But international students face everything that domestic students face; they have the same concerns and even more. VP International will have to work closely with the other VPs, so it makes more sense to split the work amongst the current VPs.

**c. VP External**

WOODS reports that ministerial election forum is alright. It was a decently attended event. And he will be meeting Karen Leibovici on October 16.

A candidate speed-dating will also be held on October 16. The speed-dating is for election candidates and students. A problem is that a candidate of Ward 8 will come but there will be many people not happy about the candidate's presence.

The voting will be on October 17 and WOODS encourages Edmontonians to cast their ballot for the ward they are living in.

CHAMPAGNE points out that as long as a person living in Edmonton for six months, that person is eligible to vote.

WOODS adds that it is the case for people who have Edmonton as their primary residence. If one has another city for his/her primary residence, one cannot vote for Edmonton but for his/her city of primary residence.

LAU points out that the City of Edmonton website has a different explanation. It explains that even Edmonton is not one's primary residence, if s/he considers Edmonton as his/her home, one can vote for Edmonton instead of his/her primary residence as long as s/he is voting for one place.

CHAMPAGNE agrees LAU's point of view.

The polling station will be set up at the Alumni Room. WOODS reports that there is problem setting up the polling station as the couches are hard to move.

BINCZYK asks about the advertisement of the election.

WOODS says posters are posted around campus and the last of them are posted on October 15. There will also be advertisement from SUBprint throughout the week. He also sent academic emails to all faculties on October 15, telling the faculty about the election and asking the professors to announce the news in their class. WOODS hopes to have a voter turnout of about 500 to 600 people. Elections Canada will be at the polling station to check, which never happens to other university campuses. It will be a testing ground to see how the new election mechanism turns out.

BINCZYK, however, cannot see the posters. WOODS will investigate, talking to Safewalk as they are responsible for posting the posters, which should be done last week.

**7. QUESTION  
PERIOD**

CHAMPAGNE asks LAU about going to Funky Buddha for Student Life event. LAU answers that he was having a meeting with Residence Halls Association. In this meeting, they talked about community building. Discussion items include a “Salsa Initiative” in Dewey’s and how to bring this initiative to campus. With the new management of Dewey’s, it is a great opportunity to bring a Mexican Night as a special at Dewey’s. He contacted Senior Manager of Food Services and the new manager of Dewey’s. Both of them are interested in this event. The best part is that it is free to students and it will attract more people to Dewey’s. Other residence associations also planned to have dance in community. Three of them are Grad Housing, East Campus Village and International House, Grad Housing and International House will have a big salsa night.

In the meeting, they also talked about HUB light party. They discuss the possibility of using the lighting and campus radio station to broadcast music across HUB mall, putting up a small light show in the evening, and having shops open late to attract people and run social events. The salsa initiative will optimistically up by mid-November to December.

BINCZYK adds that there is also an initiative of a flash mob. It will combine the students of Campus Saint-Jean and North Campus. She hopes to perform at Campus Saint-Jean, North Campus and perhaps somewhere in the city. There will be 50 to 60 students in the flash mob.

MOHAMED concerns about student issues. He suggests having a position like Board of Governors who is not paid but has an official role to connect to the Student Council. The position is not paid but is a formal position and has to report to the Council. LAU explains that the Board of Governors representative exists because they have voting power in Board of Governors. If someone is elected to represent international student issues, there is currently no position for the representative to vote.

WOODS thinks that it is a good conversation but it is a little too far down. It makes sense that there is a representative for the International Student Association. But before the ISA is created, there are a lot of issues to settle. It seems premature to discuss the representative.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

BATAL wants the committee to report their progress in the task forces about the policy and set a timeline for their work.

**Health and Wellness Policy**

BATAL, BINCZYK and LAU are responsible. They met last week and by the end of this week and next week, they are doing consultation with students representatives in Health and Wellness field, and on the other side with administration and people from the university, to get the perspective of what are missing, what they have and what the gaps are. They hope, by the mid-November, the policy can be presented to the Council. And they hope to build a recommendation report from the consultation to support their changes to the policy.

BINCZYK adds that they will be attending to a symposium to contribute the most updated information. The symposium will be on November 16, from 10 am to 2:45 pm. 175 students registered and all of them will have posters to present their proposals. The top will have time to present their proposal. It will be a chance to see what Health and Wellness may mean to students.

BATAL states that it is impossible talk to everybody through consultation. There is a lot student groups with health related initiative on campus. And the task force is trying to contact them to see their opinion. She adds that a lot of industries and government are coming to the symposium, and Alumni Association is looking for different ways to fund students and is interested in health and wellness. Therefore, some of the initiative might happen.

### **Internationalization Policy**

LAU comments that it would be interesting to see how the Town Hall will affect SU.

BATAL asks about the focus group of international students. LAU answers that the focus group was on the table until the forum came up. Currently, there are 15 to 17 students in the focus group to meet weekly to talk about the issues. But to get a broader scope, LAU thinks that the Town Hall would make more sense.

LAU says the Town Hall will be video recorded and transcribe it into minutes. There is also a website for international students to post their questions and concerns.

WOODS comments that the policy only needs to get the idea of how international students want the policy to help them.

LAU suggests presenting a drafted policy in the Town Hall to see how international students think and what is missing. For example, international students might not be clear about the study permit, and it will show what issues the SU should focus on and what are the priorities.

BATAL asks about the structure of the forum. LAU answers that he is using a website for students to write their comments. And on Thursday, he will be

meeting with the Advocacy team to go over the questions and structure the answers. Once the Town Hall starts, he will answer as many of those questions as possible, then there will be an open Q&A. The Town Hall will also include Office of the Dean of Students and International Centre to address to the questions. It ends with a thanks for people coming out and continue to seek their feedback of an International Students Association.

BATAL asks about the timeline for this policy. LAU estimates that it will be finished by the first meeting in November.

### **Scholarship and Bursary Policy**

CHELEN reports that WOODS is working towards the first draft. CHELEN will take feedback from the Scholarship and Bursary Task Force. The policy will be finished after a week.

CHAMPAGNE has concerns about the application interface of scholarship. The interface and material required are in English. While the program offered in Campus Saint-Jean is in bilingual, students with native language in French need to take English courses, so students come out of Campus Saint-Jean will be bilingual. However, most of the scholarship are applicable in first year are in English. It is hard for them because they do not know how to communicate their issues, and no one brings this issue up.

The first draft of the policy will be finished by the next Policy Committee meeting.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

BATAL reports that the items on the table are Health and Wellness, Internationalization, and Scholarship and Bursary, which will be finished by mid-November. She asks when the committee will look into the remaining items, which needs to be renewed this year.

BATAL, BINCZYK and LAU are in Health and Wellness.

BATAL, WOODS, CHELEN, MILLS and CHAMPAGNE are in Scholarship and Bursary.

LAU, WOODS and BATAL are in Internationalization.

BATAL and WOODS are in Student Loans.

LAU and WOODS are in Affordable Housing.

WOODS and HANWELL are in Deferred Maintenance.

WOODS, Petros Kusmu and Josh Le, HANWELL, BINCZYK and MILLS are in Mandatory Non-instructional Fees.

LAU, Josh Le, BINCZYK and CHAMPAGNE are in Public Transit.

CHELEN and BATAL are in Research.

Josh Le and BATAL are in Student Space.

WOODS, Petros Kusmu and CHAMPAGNE are in Tuition.

BATAL comments that setting the principles will be the biggest problem for



the committee because it takes a lot of work, and asks the committee for a timeline of their work, as she does not want to put an item on the table while the committee is not ready for it.

LAU comments that there will be not many changes in Affordable Housing and Public Transit because the SU will not be signing any contract for another 4 year.

CHAMPAGNE thinks that the Town Hall will help the Tuition Policy, and he expects a change in that policy, and not just about the International Differential Fee.

BATAL asks about PSLA Task Force. WOODS comments that the Tuition Policy will not be changed much, depending on what goes to PSLA. It should be up for December to January.

BATAL will ask Josh Le about Student Space Policy.

CHELEN thinks that Research Policy will be done between December and January as he hopes for more free time at that period.

LAU comments that Public Transit Policy can be done any time after the completion of Internationalization, and Health and Wellness Policy, because there is not much to advocate for since the contract has been signed.

WOODS says that since Mandatory Non-instructional Fee Policy is also PSLA related dependent, it will be done in January.

WOODS comments that he can finish Deferred Maintenance Policy sooner. He will do it after the city election is over, probably finish it in January or February.

LAU estimates that there will be not many changes in Affordable Housing.

WOODS puts Student Loans in March or April because he does not know what will happen to the Student Loans. Many people are lobbying about Student Loans. If there is a substantial change, then they will have a new policy direction.

## **10. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS**

## **11. REPORTS**

## **12. CLOSED**

**SESSION**

**13. NEXT MEETING** *October 29, 6 p.m. at SUB608*

**14. ADJOURNMENT** *BINCZYK* moved that the meeting be adjourned.  
The motion was seconded by *CHAMPAGNE*.

Vote on Motion 8 / 0 / 0

**CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.



## **POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL**

<i>Date: October 15, 2013</i>	<i>Time: 6:05 pm</i>	2013 – 2014 <b>MEETING #12</b>
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<b>Motions</b>		
1.	<i>BINCZYK</i> moved that <i>October 15 agenda be approved as tabled.</i>	<i>CARRIED</i> <i>6/0/0</i>
2.	<i>WOODS</i> moved that <i>October 1 minutes be approved as tabled.</i>	<i>CARRIED</i> <i>5/0/1</i>
3.	<i>BINCZYK</i> moved that <i>the meeting be adjourned.</i>	<i>CARRIED</i> <i>8/0/0</i>



# POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

2013 - 2014 # 13

**Date:** November 26, 2013

**Time:** 6:07 pm

## In Attendance:

*Kareema Batal (Chair)*

*William Lau*

*Adam Woods*

*Kelsey Mills*

*Colin Champagne*

*Natalia Binczyk*

*Bashir Mohamed (Skype)*

## Excused Absence:

*Dylan Hanwell*

*Natalia Binczyk*

*Dustin Chelen*

## Others in Attendance:

### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by *BATAL* at 6:07 pm.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*MILLS* amended agenda to include “Policy around Student Groups” in Discussion section.

*HANWELL* moved that the November 26 agenda be approved as amended. Seconded by *BATAL*.

Vote on Motion 6 / 0 / 0

**CARRIED.**

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*WOODS* amended minutes to change “Elections Canada will be at the polling station to check” to “Elections Canada and Elections Alberta will be at the polling station to check” under c. VP External in Executive Committee Report.

*MILLS* moved that the October 15 minutes be approved as tabled.

The motion was seconded by *WOODS*.

Vote on Motion 6 / 0 / 0

*CARRIED.*

**4.**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**5. PRESENTATIONS**

**6. EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

**a. VP Student Life**

LAU reports on the proposed increase of international students' tuition. The situation is dynamic and he is glad to have a group of students who are energetic and put in time and effort to advocate for the awareness of increase. They are doing well in raising the awareness of the increase. They started off like an opposition of the domestic students. But earlier this week, international students and domestic students were cooperating to create a strong and united voice. They are also pointing out larger problems on the institution and government funding. They are now focusing on bringing the message to the Board of Governors and external media, encouraging international students to send message back to friends and families at home to communicate the impact of tuition increase to recruitment strategy.

There was a conversation about recruitment strategy for graduate students in a board last night. The funding for grad students is unpredictable. Some of the programs are very well funded but some are not well funded. Given that, many board members agree it is a good time to increase graduate student tuition, especially for international students because they want to solve the funding model first. SU President will continue to lobby board members to put out a stronger message to show that tuition increase has a larger impact on the institution than to the students themselves.

MILLS asks if the board dinner had reflections on the concerns brought up by GFC. WOODS adds that many international students are quite upset and writing letters home. It is often that the board does not realize the respond it will get from its membership. All the administration goes decision through the board. SU is trying to argue that it is unfair that the university brought students here and then raised the tuition; they might need to go home because of the increase. The reason of budget cut is unjustified. SU President is lobbying individual board member to see the logic.

BATAL brings up the argument that people perceive higher price for higher quality and wants to know how the University sell this to recruit students internationally. WOODS explains that if the University increases the tuition, it should also show that there is an increase in the quality as well. If the government deregulates tuition through these changes, the same thing will happen to domestic students; there will be no check on the University.

MILLS comments that previous increase of tuition was not grandfathered for both international and domestic students. If it is not grandfathered, students will need to pay on inflation and student will not catch up for the non-grandfathered year. WOODS states that it is how the University functions. Most students can predict CPI; but charging it per semester is a heavy burden to students. SU is in the position that if the university has significant change for what students are paying, it should be grandfathered to at least allow students to decide whether or not there is any value to attend this institution. If there are changes that go beyond inflation to the level that has not be seen for a long time, there is a responsibility to make things as predictable as possible. This will be SU's argument. There are many international students who can barely pay their tuitions, they came here to study under a predictable tuition for two to three years, and then there is an increase that they cannot afford. It is unfair to those students.

BATAL asks if there is a realistic solution. WOODS replies that students should act as a whole to make the increase grandfathered or allow them to have time in advance to think whether they would attend this institution. SU is in a position that if there is a significant increase of tuition, the University should let students know in advance.

MOHAMED asks if the University could promise to keep the tuition at CPI for students who are accepted here for the duration of their degree, so students could finish their degree at the tuition that they started. WOODS states that that is SU's aim.

LAU states that there are three things SU is asking for: grandfathering the increase, the increase should less than 5% because SU does not agree to the justification of 5%, and certain amount of increased tuition goes to bursary.

MILLS asks since the board dinner based the discussion on grad students, could it also be a jumping off point for undergrad students. LAU answers that SU does not receive an updated proposal. He adds that around 40-60% of grad students are international, and by rolling back the increase, it satisfies many students and the university does not lose much. But for undergrad students, the University expects to receive \$3 million from the 5% increase.

MILLS comments on the posters posted by international students for the International Differential Fee. Some of them are great, but some of them might not have the right reaction from its audience. MILLS suggests if the message can convey in a more appropriate and positive way to the community. LAU comments that international students are doing a great job in raising awareness and noticing the push back from domestic students. The initial messages of the posters were rash and contained a lot of anger. But now they acknowledge the respond out there. BATAL feels that the

international students are segregating themselves more through this campaign. She wishes there are more domestic students interactions in this. LAU thinks that this is what the international students are trying to do.

HANWELL comments that how could SU makes people care. If going from the University and Government of Alberta's perspective, they have no reason to care. A lot of students applied to the University, so it is not hard for the University to find replacement for the loss of students because of the tuition increase. WOODS adds that the government will review the domestic students' tuition policy in the next three months. If the government removes the regulation for domestic student, they might experience the same hike of international students. It is not just for international students. LAU adds that there is a lack of communication, so there is an effort for international students to communicate message back at home. While the University does not care much about emotion and fairness, it does care about reputation and recruitment. If students could attack their reputation and recruitment strategy, there will be a change in metrics.

CHAMPAGNE asks what pushes back the tuition hike for international students and what stops the government from open the act to put everyone on the same page. WOODS is lobbying to put tuition cap in the Act permanently. This is a huge opportunity. There are a many issues SU lobbying for years, and SU will throw them into legislation. But for international students, they are not in the legislation, and WOODS doubts that they will be in the regulation.

HANWELL asks if there is a chance that regulation will need to choice one or another between international and domestic students. WOODS says it is hard to answer because SU advocates for both sides.

### **c. VP External**

WOODS was in Ottawa last week and met with many federal officials. CASA collectively met with over 120 people, a majority of MPs, but also included senators and representatives of Canada Student Loans program and other lobby groups of students' issue. As a whole, it was a useful experience and a productive week.

WOODS also helps LAU for international students' issues.

WOODS states that the government funded an initiative of \$1 million. It was a program meant to provide the community to hire staff members, also companies to hire student to work in area relevant to them. The government thinks it is not useful when considering budget cut because it thinks there is no problem in youth unemployment in this province. The program exists for a long time and not for profit. He is working on this issue and will be talking with government. It is a useful program for students as they can earn their

tuition and fees from in the summer and will not need to worry about them during their study.

MILLS asks if there was a specific goal for WOODS' trip to Ottawa. WOODS answer that it was the advocacy of the university. CASA had voted on the priority of issues to be presented this year. Major issues are student loans and its assessment, international off-campus permit and multiple entry visas and Canada Student Grants program. These were tailored to the government.

## **7. QUESTION PERIOD**

### **8. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **a. Scholarships and Bursaries Policy: Update & Discussion**

BATAL asks committee members if they could provide online comments of the principles before Friday as it needs to be in the Council's agenda in the next meeting and much of the work is already finished.

MILLS asks why this policy needs to be split. WOODS answers that it is better that way because scholarship and bursary are two different issues. MILLS brings up that the government might neglect one or another if the policy is split. CHAMPAGNE suggests that the policy can explicitly states that they are two issues and the government needs to support both. CHAMPAGNE would like the policy together because of translation and political issue because it is stronger for them to be in one policy. BATAL points out that if they are in the same policy, it will make them ambiguous and the government will meet the needs some way or another. MILLS agrees the split because it will help SU to advocate. BATAL points out that the University does not direct equal proportion of fund to scholarship and bursary. LAU supplements that the University always want more entry scholarship but not much incentive in bursary. BATAL suggests a vote on the split.

*MILLS* moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was seconded by WOODS.

Vote on Motion 4 / 1 / 2

*CARRIED.*

BATAL will send an email to committee members to come up with pros and cons of splitting the policy, so that the Policy Committee can present it in the Council meeting.

#### **b. Health & Wellness Policy: Update & Discussion about Online Consultations**

The progress slowed down because the committee wants to do more in-depth consultations with people who can contribute to the policy. But provided with

the time frame, it is difficult to do that. There are a lot of students in Health and Science area help contribute to Health and Student Assembly earlier in the Fall, and they have great ideas in terms of health and wellness. So the committee created a survey for them to fill out; it will give the committee some information on how to define health and wellness, what should be changed in the policy, and health and wellness students' opinions of what is going on on campus. BATALL asks for the committee's feedback on the survey and idea in general.

MILLS asks about the goal of this policy. BATALL notices that the committee does not have the background information to know what it is doing, but there are so many myths and ideologies that are hard to understand. It is used for understanding the things that the committee is advocated for.

CAMPAGNE asks what the incentives for students to participate are. BATALL answers the reason the committee focus on the health and science population particular is that there are student representatives who are involved and committed to Health and Wellness. One of the incentives for them is to contribute something campus-wide.

BATALL further explains that the committee can get professional opinion but from a student perspective, because average students do not think about Health and Wellness until a certain need comes up.

**c. Internationalization: Update**

LAU is now working on principles, rewording it. BATALL reminds the committee that the policy does not need to be shown in the First Reading, so that it provides more time to the committee. LAU suggests that the timeline for the policy is probably two weeks.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Tuition Policy: Review and Action Planning**

Currently it is on BATALL and WOODS' portfolio, but WOODS recommends putting KUSMU on the list. KUSMU wants to bring a greater discussion to the Council, as currently SU is mandated to always run against tuition, which means SU representatives cannot vote in favour for tuition increase. But university administration discredits SU's opinion because of this.

MILLS also heard about Law and Engineering students that they want to advocate for increase but cannot do it because they have to play by SU policy.

BATALL will set up a task force meeting to bring KUSMU into discussion sometime in January.

**b. Policy around Student Groups**

MILLS thinks that the Dean of Students is exerting more control on top of it already had. She suggests that SU should advocate for some policy in place or



for future Exec to advocate in the same fashion.

LAU thinks that there is not much to advocate for the University. SU is currently drafting up internally with researchers new bylaws to propose to Bylaw Committee. Because what binding SU's hand is SU's bylaw, which states that student groups need to be registered with the University before registered with SU. SU will create registration system that is similar to the University's, so that it will not create more steps. But the decision making process of SU is different.

MILLS asks about planning events and liquor license. LAU says SU will have the ultimate authority. But BATAL suggests that if there is a controversial group lobby to SU, then SU will be in trouble.

LAU states that students often sides with the University, until there is an issue that impact what students believe in. WOODS adds that it is only in last year that SU first saw disagreement between itself and the University in disciplinary area.

LAU comments that SU stand strong against the University because the University makes decision too rashly and he will bring evidence to the Council, and he also believes that Residence Association has a strong tie with SU. SU cannot let the University to do whatever it wants without consultation.

**10. DISCUSSION  
AND INFORMATION  
ITEMS**

**11. REPORTS**

**12. CLOSED  
SESSION**

**13. NEXT MEETING** *TBD*

**14. ADJOURNMENT** *CHAMPAGNE* moved that the meeting be adjourned.  
The motion was seconded by *WOODS*.

Vote on Motion 7 / 0 / 0

*CARRIED.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 pm.



## POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

<i>Date: November 26, 2013</i>	<i>Time: 6:07 pm</i>	2013 – 2014 <b>MEETING #13</b>
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<b>Motions</b>		
1.	<b>HANWELL</b> moved that <i>November 26 agenda be approved as amended.</i>	<i>CARRIED 6/0/0</i>
2.	<b>MILLS</b> moved that <i>October 15 minutes be approved as amended.</i>	<i>CARRIED 6/0/0</i>
3.	<b>MILLS</b> moved that <i>the policy be split.</i>	<i>CARRIED 4/1/2</i>
4.	<b>CHAMPAGNE</b> moved that <i>the meeting be adjourned.</i>	<i>CARRIED 7/0/0</i>

## **Scholarships & Bursaries**

### **First Reading Principles:**

The Students' Union will advocate on the following principles:

- The University of Alberta should increase the number and value of awards to undergraduates in order to be consistent with the number and value of entrance awards.
- The University of Alberta should increase the relative and absolute amounts of scholarships and bursaries based on students financial need and involvement on campus.
- The University of Alberta should disclose annually the ratio of need to merit based aid, and distribution of awards between years of study.
- That donors support students from diverse backgrounds and with diverse skills via scholarship and bursary funding.
- That the University of Alberta centralizes information and applications relevant to scholarships and bursaries.
- That the government of Alberta recognizes the importance of non repayable student aid compared to scholarships
- That the government of Alberta fund bursaries at an equal or higher level than merit based scholarships.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

WHEREAS the cost of a university education has increased;

WHEREAS this cost increase poses a great disincentive to accessing a university education, as well as a considerable barrier to finishing a degree;

WHEREAS scholarships and bursaries are an integral part of the student finance system, without which motivated and outstanding individuals could not afford a university education;

WHEREAS the University of Alberta should not only aim to attract talented students, but demonstrate a commitment to realizing the full potential of current undergraduate students;

WHEREAS financial need can be detrimental to academic and extracurricular student achievement by diverting student focus and effort to employment;

WHEREAS the current scholarship and bursaries applications process is inefficient and time consuming;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta to increase the number and value of awards granted to continuing undergraduate students in order to be consistent with the number and value of entrance awards;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta and the Government of Alberta to increase the relative and absolute amounts of scholarships and bursaries that are awarded based on the students' financial need and/or involvement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate that the University disclose annually the ratio of need to merit based aid, as well as the distribution between first, second, third, and fourth year students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate to donors to support students from diverse backgrounds with diverse skills; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT The Students' Union advocate for centralized information and applications for relevant scholarships and bursaries.

## **BURSARIES**

WHEREAS the Government of Alberta has provided more funding for merit based scholarships than bursaries and non repayable student aid in recent budgets

WHEREAS merit based scholarships target students who are less likely to have dire need of financial aid.

WHEREAS bursaries and non-repayable aid focuses on students in financial need rather than students with academic achievements

WHEREAS the University of Alberta Students' Union recognizes that some students require part or full time employment in order to finance their education.

WHEREAS students partaking in part or full time employment do not have the same opportunity for academic achievement as those who do not require employment.

WHEREAS the University of Alberta Students' Union believes grades should determine entrance into University, not ability to pay.

WHEREAS students who do not receive financial assistance for their education may be required to take out large amounts of debt.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate that the Government of Alberta recognize the importance of bursaries and non-repayable student financial aid.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate that the Government of Alberta fund bursaries at an equal or higher level than merit based scholarships.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate for government funding increases towards the number of bursaries and non-repayable student financial aid as well as the amounts going towards them.