



University of Alberta Students' Union

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, March 21 , 2017**

**4:00 PM**

**SUB 0-55**

We would like to acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Dene, Cree, 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 continuing colonial violence and respect Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

### **AGENDA (PC 2016-11)**

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>2016-11/1</b>  | <b><u>INTRODUCTION</u></b>  |
| <b>2016-11/1a</b> | <b>Call to Order</b>  |
| <b>2016-11/1b</b> | <b>Approval of Agenda</b>   |
| <b>2016-11/1c</b> | <b>Approval of Minutes</b>  |
| <b>2016-11/1d</b> | <b>Chair's Business</b>   |
| <b>2016-11/2</b>  | <b><u>QUESTION PERIOD/ DISCUSSION</u></b>   |
| <b>2016-11/2a</b> | MNIF Policy Second Principles<br><br>Please see PC 16-11.01   |
| <b>2016-11/2b</b> | Internationalization Policy First Principles<br><br>Please see PC 16-11.02  |
| <b>2016-11/2c</b> | Public Transit Policy First Principles  |
| <b>2016-11/3</b>  | <b><u>COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u></b>  |
| <b>2016-11/3a</b> | <b>DEJONG MOVES</b> to recommend to Students' Council to renew the Scholarships and Bursaries Political Policy as-is.<br><br>Please see PC 16-11.03 |
| <b>2016-11/4</b>  | <b><u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u></b>   |

**2016-11/5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**2016-11/5a**

**Next Meeting: April 4, 2017 @ 4:00PM in SUB 6-06**

## Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees Policy

### 1 Facts (as approved at Students' Council)

1. The University of Alberta is a publicly-funded public institution and therefore committed to high standards of service, administrative effectiveness, and good governance in the responsible management of its financial resources.
2. Services provided by the University of Alberta can foster a positive student experience.
3. Services provided by the University of Alberta Students' Union are essential components of the student experience.
4. Undergraduate students are willing to pay a reasonable fee for services that benefit them and are of good value for their money.
5. Mandatory non-instructional fees remain unregulated by the Government of Alberta and can therefore change at the discretion of the University and the Students' Union.
6. Mandatory non-instructional fees are in addition to the tuition fee, which is the mandatory payment for instruction.
7. The process used to add or change mandatory non-instructional fees differs between the University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union.
8. The University of Alberta Students' Union has committed to transparency and accountability on how mandatory non-instructional fees are spent.
9. The cost of a post-secondary education includes tuition, fees, educational materials, and living expenses.
10. A high and unpredictable cost of education is a barrier to postsecondary education for many students.

### 2 Resolutions

1. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate for a predictable cost of post-secondary education, that can be reasonably anticipated year-to-year.
2. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate for an affordable cost of post-secondary education for all current and potential students.
3. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate for an accessible cost of post-secondary education, especially for students facing financial and/or cultural barriers.
4. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate to the Government of Alberta for the regulation of all mandatory non-instructional fees.
5. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate to the Government of Alberta for a framework which clearly defines which fees are non-instructional and therefore outside the framework established in the Public Post-Secondary Tuition Fees Regulation.
6. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate for a process where students provide meaningful input on which services mandatory non-instructional fees pay for.
7. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate to retain the student-approval mechanism for the implementation of any new mandatory non-instructional fees as well as for an increase to any existing mandatory non-instructional fees.
8. The University of Alberta Students' Union will advocate for continued transparency and accountability procedures as to where and how the fees levied on students are spent.
9. The Students' Union will advocate that students maintain representation on any body directing the general affairs and mandate of a service which is funded by a student fee.

## Internationalization Political Policy

### 1 Facts

1. The number of international students in Canada has increased by 148 percent from 2002 to 2011<sup>[1]</sup>.
2. The number of international students transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status increased by 16 percent from 2002 to 2011<sup>[2]</sup>.
3. The rate of international students transitioning from temporary to permanent resident status in the past decade has not kept up with the pace of international student enrollment in Canadian post secondary institutions.
4. The International Differential Fee (IDF) represents a serious threat to affordability and accessibility.
5. International students have less access to merit-based and need-based aid **than domestic students**, and do not have access to **Provincial or Federal** Government student loans.
6. Renewable scholarships for international students are important for their financial planning and cannot be regained if lost.
7. Post secondary institutions **may are permitted to** charge international students more than they cost to educate.
8. International students should not bear the burden of an institutions' financial deficits.
9. The University of Alberta and the Students' Union recognizes the importance of international students.
10. The Government of Alberta does not require educational institutions to charge **-International Differential Fees (IDFs)**.
11. The Public Post-Secondary Institutions Tuition Fees Regulation **-does not regulate International Differential fees (IDFs)**.
12. The International **+** Differential Fee limits the geographic diversity of our international students.
13. A diverse student body and institutional internationalization is a fundamental feature of a high-quality university education.
14. An enhanced campus experience may increase engagement and retention of international students.
15. **SRecent** surveys have shown that:
  - a. integration with domestic students;
  - b. accessibility of on-campus housing; and
  - c. quality of career-related programming are the top three experiences international students seek in their post-secondary experience.

16. The transfer credit system plays a pivotal role in enhancing the quality of internationalization at the University of Alberta.
17. Cultural awareness and global experiences are highly sought-after attributes by potential employers.
18. As of March 2017, the University of Alberta has not publicly disclosed its statistical reporting information regarding international students since 2011.

## 2 Resolutions

1. The Students' Union shall support accessible post-secondary education for international students at the University of Alberta.
2. The Students' Union shall not support the University of Alberta Board of Governors ~~of the University of Alberta~~ increasing International Differential -Fees -
3. The Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta ~~provide~~ clear and transparent transfer credit processes at the faculty, ~~c~~ampus, Alberta, national, and international levels.
4. The Students' Union shall advocate the University of Alberta to improve access to merit-based and need-based aid for international students.
5. The Students' Union shall advocate the University of Alberta to restructure renewable scholarships to provide more predictability.
6. The Students' Union shall lobby the Government of Alberta for regulation of the International Differential Fees (IDF) to provide predictable tuition rates for international students.
7. The Students' Union shall lobby the Federal Government to issue multiple-entry visas to ~~All~~all international students.
8. The Students' Union shall advocate that the Federal Government increase the number of permanent residencies for undergraduate international students issued each year in the Canadian Experience Class.
9. The Students' Union shall advocate that the Federal Government expand the Federal Skilled Worker Class immigration program's fast track stream eligibility to include undergraduate international students.
10. The Students' Union shall encourage the University of Alberta to actively foster opportunities that allow local students to interact with international students.
11. The Students' Union shall advocate that the University of Alberta improve housing quality and accessibility for international students.
12. The Students' Union shall lobby the University of Alberta to improve career-related programming and services for international students.
13. The Students' Union will advocate that the University of Alberta publish regular reports regarding student demographic information.



## Scholarships and Bursaries Political Policy

### 1 Facts

1. The cost of a university education has increased
2. This cost increase poses a great disincentive to accessing a university education, as well as a considerable barrier to finishing a degree
3. Scholarships and bursaries are an integral part of the student finance system, without which motivated and outstanding individuals could not afford a university education
4. 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
5. Financial need can be detrimental to academic and extracurricular student achievement by diverting student focus and effort to employment
6. The current scholarship and bursaries applications process is inefficient and time consuming.

### 2 Resolutions

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. The Students' Union pursue a single point of entry to the scholarship and bursaries application process.

**POLICY  
COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday March 10, 2017**

**11:00 am**

**SUB 0-55**

**ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Victoria DeJong (Chair)		Y (over phone)
Reed Larsen (chaired the meeting)		Y
Delane Howie		Y
Kyle Monda		Y
Alexander Brophy		Y
Fredrique Ndatirwa	Ben Angus	Y
Marina Banister		N
Mike Sandare		N
Francesca El Ghossein		Y
Fahim Rahman		N

**MINUTES (PC 2016-10)**

**2016-10/1**

**INTRODUCTION**

GHOSSEIN/BROPHY move to have Councillor Larsen chair the meeting.  
5/0/0 CARRIED

**2016-10/1a**

**Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 11:08 am



**2016-10/1b**

**Approval of Agenda**

HOWIE/BROPHY moved to approve the agenda  
5/0/0  
CARRIED

**2016-10/1c**

**Approval of Minutes**

MONDA/BROPHY moved to approve the minutes from February 8, 2017  
4/0/1  
CARRIED  
(ANGUS abstained)

MONDA/BROPHY moved to approve the minutes from February 16, 2017  
4/0/1  
CARRIED  
(ANGUS abstained)

**2016-10/1d**

**Chair's Business**

**2016-10/2**

**QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

**2016-10/3a**

**DEJONG moves to approve Policy Committee Standing Orders as amended.**

DEJONG  
Mentioned that standing orders will be in website

LARSEN  
Agreed that the Standing Orders look good.

MONDA/HOWIE move to approve Policy Committee Standing Orders as amended.  
5/0/0  
CARRIED

**2016-10/3b**

**Public Transit Policy renewal**

GHOSSEIN  
Mentioned that she added point number 9 under facts which is a simple statement.

MONDA

The term “in-transit vehicle” should be used in point 9.

GHOSSEIN

Mentioned that points 8 and 9 are new under facts, and that under resolutions there are few points on safety. Also, mentioned the new point under resolution concerning individuals who are not taking summer class but working at the university should be provided with a cheaper alternative than the adult bus passes.

MONDA

In resolution point 9, they should eliminate the university area as it limits it

BROPHY

Indicated that safer public transit is the concern

GHOSSEIN

Mentioned that in number 1 they add it but in number 9 they say transit stations

MONDA

Said that they can advocate for operations changes to ETS. Other cities have more safety infrastructure than Edmonton does, and gave the example of the Vancouver public transit systems. In Edmonton, LRT alarm only yields a loud response from the operator but in Vancouver, one gets help once an alarm is triggered. Mention he would like to see ETS improve.

GHOSSEIN

If students are affected by this which we do have data that it does and it it advertently benefits others, that is great.

ANGUS

Mentioned that it is useful to obtain feedback from stakeholders about safety.

(BROPHY leaves the meeting)

ANGUS

Said that it can be said that students feel unsafe in using U-Pass service areas.

HOWIE

Said that she likes using the term “U-Pass” but it is “public transit” policy in general.

GHOSSEIN

Said that it is to anonymize but not to aggregate.

MONDA

Said that the data has been redacted.

GHOSSEIN

We can motion this for today and if the Policy Committee does not have that data then they can provide that. Is everyone okay with resolution point 6 which was added?

MONDA

Said that he has a question about resolution number 5, which is: For the smart cards technology that can be downloaded to the university for which the university is capable of paying for, what should be happening?

GHOSSEIN

Replied that she doesn't know if it is a cost issue.

MONDA

Asked if resolution number 1 is a strong enough resolution for safety.

ANGUS

Suggested replacing the word "consider" by "incorporate."

LARSEN

Said that he is happy with the policy.

GHOSSEIN/ANGUS moved to approve the renewal of the Public Transit Policy, as amended, upon recommendation of Policy Committee.

5/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-10/3c**

**MNIF Policy 2nd Principles**

LARSEN/MONDA moved to discuss this in next meeting

5/0/0

CARRIED

**2016-10/4**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**2016-10/5**

**ADJOURNMENT**

LARSEN/ANGUS moved to adjourn the meeting  
5/0/0  
CARRIED

**2016-10/5a**

**Next Meeting:** March 21, 2017 @ 4:00PM

**2016-10/5b**

Meeting adjourned at 11:28 am.

**SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

<b>MOTION</b>	<b>VOTES</b>
GHOSSEIN/BROPHY move to have Councillor Larsen to chair the meeting.	6/0/0, CARRIED
HOWIE/BROPHY moved to approve the agenda	6/0/0, CARRIED
MONDA/BROPHY moved to approve the minutes from February 8, 2017	5/0/1, CARRIED (ANGUS abstained)
MONDA/BROPHY moved to approve the minutes from February 16, 2017	5/0/1, CARRIED (ANGUS abstained)
MONDA/HOWIE move to approve Policy Committee Standing Orders as amended	6/0/0, CARRIED
MONDA/HOWIE move to approve Policy Committee Standing Orders as amended	6/0/0, CARRIED
GHOSSEIN/ANGUS moved to approve the renewal of the Public Transit Policy, as amended, upon recommendation of Policy Committee	5/0/0, CARRIED
LARSEN/MONDA moved to discuss this in next meeting	5/0/0, CARRIED
LARSEN/ANGUS moved to adjourn the	5/0/0, CARRIED

meeting	
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