

**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday January 31, 2017

5:00 am

SUB 6-06

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Victoria DeJong (Chair)		Y
Reed Larsen		Y
Delane Howie		Y
Kyle Monda		Y
Alexander Brophy		Y
Fredrique Ndatirwa		N
Marina Banister		Y
Mike Sandare		Y
Francesca El Ghossein		Y

MINUTES (PC 2016-08)

2016-08/1 INTRODUCTION

2016-08/1a Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 4:02 pm

2016-08/1b Approval of Agenda

GHOSSEIN/BANISTER moved to approve the agenda

5/0/0

CARRIED

2016-08/1c

Approval of Minutes

LARSEN/MONDA moved to approve the minutes
5/0/0
CARRIED

2016-08/1d

Chair's Business

2016-08/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2016-08/2a

MNIF Policy changes

DEJONG

MNIF Policy changes document is in Google Drive.

MONDA

I have a question and some comments under facts specified in point 10. Also, concerning academic price index (API), is change new as the university started it this year?

GHOSSEIN

It started last year.

MONDA

It is still new and could this be questionable?

Also, since this is an index that the university has made, should it still be called the academic price index?

GHOSSEIN

We have to say if it is not contradictory to any political policy. Also, since we haven't mentioned it in any other policy like inflation, they should mention consistency as a value.

BROPHY

Add that they should make a resolution that the university is using API and not CPI.

LARSEN

Said that he understands it but he doesn't know where it is coming from.

GHOSSEIN

Mentioned that it is the board that approves it.

LARSEN

Questioned, where is API?

GHOSSEIN

Acknowledged that it is a good question, and said that they are presented it to the board and the board presented it but nothing is documented and so you can't find anything.

LARSEN

Are we are to make sure where all the information is coming from?

GHOSSEIN

The present provost and VP Finance are responsible.

LARSEN

To have a citation, they need a source on where the information is coming from.

MONDA

Clarified about the API and mentioned that he sees that the university has useful measures. CPI is a reasonably easy to understand in the university context; a breakdown how API cost are calculated and explained to students and collective arguments should be in a form that are understandable by students;

GHOSSEIN

Questioned how would he frame that in terms of transparency, as transparency is a value that is needed.

MONDA

Said that in addition to transparency, they will have consistency.

LARSEN

Said that he wants to differentiate this point in general, and questioned if they are going to differentiate API as a standard for inflation?
Said that he is on the CPI side but wants to know where API is coming from.

BROPHY

Questioned, why it should be a separate policy? Said that he is okay with rolling it into the MNIF policy.

(Delaine Howie joins the meeting)

DEJONG

Said that they will bring it to council. Points 1 and 3 are being added, is everyone comfortable with adding those?

MONDA

Said that he can compare and contrast all the policies but is not sure where to find information about the same, and still doesn't see where the last meeting's outcome are addressed;

DEJONG

Asked if others also share that concern.

(All agree)

LARSEN

There are notable differences between SU fees and your standard MNIF. These aren't just opinion, they can be cited in policy, such as our internal policy or the University's definition of MNIF's. Point 7 & 9 are examples of such.

MONDA

Mentioned that his question is would that be a better resolution, and that he thinks that point 7 makes sense but the difference between them in legislation should be there.

GHOSSEIN

Asked if point 7 would be enough with added words?

DEJONG

Agreed

BANISTER

Mentioned that they can get sources for these points.

MONDA

Mentioned that he thinks that Policy Committee is overstaying in this policy, while there are other things one needs to do before the year ends.

BANISTER

Said that they do not need to define every single statement.

BROPHY

A few citations are a good thing but it is not a good idea to be excessively obsessed.

DEJONG

Asked if all approved of point 3.

All committee members approved.

DEJONG

Said that in point 5, they are adding university or student associations which includes SU, university and any other university associations.

All agreed.

MONDA

It is important to mention the university has control over their own fees.

GHOSSEIN

How about saying that the university and SU have a their own process for changing the fees and not jointly. Can combine points 7 and 9 in the manner.

BANISTER

Said that she prefers to put the word "different."

Said that she thinks that it is more of a risk and that there is no harm by removing it.

DEJONG

Asked if all committee members approved of point 8.

MONDA

Indicated that commas are not needed.

(All agreed)

(Mike Sandare comes)

DEJONG

Said that they went over the first principles and asked how committee members felt about bringing the policy to council.

All members agreed in bringing the policy to council.

DEJONG

After we know the Students' Council's decision, we will look into it at our next Policy committee meeting.

SANDARE

Asked the meaning of "different process fees."

DEJONG

Explained that they are different by means of citations and can highlight the process or the fees.

SANDARE

Asked the difference between mandatory and instructional fees are same -how are they different;

LARSEN

Clarified that they are trying to explain that;

GHOSSEIN

Said that it is not the type but the process;

DEJONG

Asked what about point 7, which is the process to change the fee and if it is different for the university and SU;

LARSEN

Agreed;

(All agreed)

DEJONG

Asked if any committee members would like to edit point 7.

Members had no changes they'd like to make.

DEJONG

Asked for if anyone had any other comments on any of the sections?

MONDA

Discussed about current and old MNIF policies and said how it is hard to get feedback on them. It would be a good idea if somebody could further look into getting feedback on the MNIF policies.

(Brandon Christensen come in,)

MOTION

SANDARE/BANISTER move to bring the **MNIF Policy changes**, as amended (as mentioned below), to 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.
(Citation)
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.

8/0/0
CARRIED

DEJONG moves to renew the Student Space Political Policy as is.

2016-08/2b

HOWIE

Said that the more she reads it the more she does not understand it, and she will contact all of the committee members for help.

DEJONG

The policy is expiring in 2017, and it is a short policy. Asked if all of the members had a chance to look at the policy. Last year Jared renewed it,

and asked if there is there any discussion on this policy.

LARSEN

Asked if they want to say that space must be more available like gender specific, etc.

DEJONG

Said that if there is no debate, she will recommend the policy to Council for renewal.

DEJONG / BROPHY moves to renew the Student Space Political Policy as is.

8/0/0

CARRIED

2016-08/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2016-08/4 INFORMATION ITEMS

2016-08/5 ADJOURNMENT

LARSEN/BROPHY moved to adjourn the meeting

8/0/0

CARRIED

2016-08/5a **Next Meeting: To be decided**

2016-08/5b Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
GHOSSEIN/BANISTER moved to approve the agenda	5/0/0, CARRIED
REED/MONDA moved to approve the minutes	5/0/0, CARRIED
SANDARE/BANISTER move to bring the MNIF Policy changes , as amended (as	8/0/0, CARRIED

mentioned below), to council	
DEJONG/BROPHY moves to renew the Student Space Political Policy as is.	8/0/0, CARRIED
LARSEN/BROPHY moved to adjourn the meeting	8/0/0, CARRIED