



University of Alberta Students' Union

POLICY COMMITTEE

Monday, August 14, 2017

6:30 PM

SUB 6-06

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 2017-06)

- 2017-06/1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2017-06/1a Call to Order**
- 2017-06/1b Approval of Agenda**
- 2017-06/1c Approval of Minutes**
- 2017-06/1d Chair's Business**
- 2017-06/1e Potentially Cancelling Next Meeting**
- 2017-06/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**
- 2017-06/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS**
- 2017-06/3a Student Financial Assistance Policy - Renewal**
- 2017-06/3b Policy Renewal Check-In**
- 2017-06/4 INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2017-06/5 ADJOURNMENT**
- 2017-06/5a **Next Meeting:** Monday, August 28, 2017 at 6:30PM in SUB 6-06.**

**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday July 31, 2017
6:30 pm
SUB 6-06**

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Sandy Brophy		Y	
Daren Choi		Y	
Delaine Howie (CHAIR)		Y	
Nathan Sunday		Y	
Haley Lefferson	Emily Howell	Y	
Alannah Piasecki		Y	
Reed Larsen		N	N
Ilya Ushakov		N	Y
Shane Scott		Y	

MINUTES (PC 2017-6)

2017-06/1 INTRODUCTION

2017-06/1a **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6.35 pm

2017-06/1b **Approval of Agenda**

BROPHY/CHOI MOVE to approve the agenda.

7/0/0, CARRIED

2017-06/1c Approval of Minutes

SCOTT/PIASECKI moved to approve the minutes with amendment
5/0/3, CARRIED

2017-06/1d Chair's Business

None

2017-06/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2017-06/2a Engagement Framework Policy Proposal from Councillor Howell

HOWELL

Asked if an improvement of engagement policy and the framework can brought about along the lines of the City of Edmonton engagement policy; Mentioned that the City has 4 by 5 process and has set examples of different things, which include how they engage and that, she thinks, is important and brought it up;

BROPHY

Said that how engagement is about how to be more comfortable to do the work

SCOTT

Mentioned that he is not sure about the City of Edmonton, but the current structure of political policy is about discover governance

HOWELL

Said that it is about how the university does engagement; but it is about having a binding policy and a guideline;

HOWIE

Said that anything binding is like a law that someone has to do; the way they structure their procedure is like having goals, which will help understand not only what but why something is done; and that's akin to having likes based on goals and SU values;

SCOTT

Said that for any GFC items that come forward it is binding, and it could determine the strategic plans of SU and about who it would impact if the consultation is done; and it is more like consultation for international students, and then they can ask if did impact and expect and a yes or no answer;

HOWIE

Said that they can probably track it and then make it an information item

BROPHY

Mentioned that the more binding something is, the clearer it is; and not every step has to be relevant in a multi-step process like that, and there might be a loosely binding requirement and then have in-depth guide to make it work;

HOWIE

Said that she sees if you are like bringing a motion forward, and it is like empowering every single councillor, and like most things for most people; she likes initiatives, and is in favor of having more tools for councillors to be engaged because that way more consultations can be done;

HOWELL

Said that she sees that kind of system put by DG, and she feels that if it is not mandated it will not be done because no one would consult if they don't have to;

HOWIE

Said that she wonders if it is for every issue or only for some, because ideally there is someone in her faculty who will be touched by her issues

SCOTT

Said that in case of bylaw change, they can take ownership for those particular ones, but there won't be responsibility for every single councillor;

HOWIE

Argued that every councillor is voting on that issue and every single person in that room is for a larger group of issues; and at the end of the day they don't make the decision but the council makes the decision; therefore she is for consultation of the masses;

SCOTT

Said that he for consultations for both, one path is outside the scope of the faculty, and the other path will be gathering of information on certain issues;

HOWIE

Acknowledged that lack of information has been the issue;

Said that she has posted it on Facebook page and already got response from 650 people; it is really tough as there is a limit as to what we can they do as individuals and she is only generalizing; and therefore she thinks it is councillor driven;

SUNDAY

Mentioned that he likes the bulletin board idea;

HOWIE

Said that it is very different from faculty to faculty; it revises, recreates and decides; and she doesn't know what questions to ask; and is for making it requirement for every councillor;

CHOI

Mentioned that it is impossible to make it mandatory because it varies so much from councillor to councillor and from faculty to faculty;

JACK

Mentioned that today students deal with a lot of information, and it is not easy to differentiate between important to unimportant information;

SCOTT

Said that she thinks it should be a multi-pronged approach; part of it should be cultural shift; their policies are broad and are principles based; and that they need a guide like City of Edmonton, templates and frameworks;
Questioned if they are actually not doing consultations then what are the accountabilities:

HOWELL

Said that she agrees that it is a gradual process; and if they sign for mandatory policies, there can be a lot of backlash; and so they can sign up people who they don't represent;

HOWIE

Said that they can make commitments to each other, and also to constituents; it is there and doable as a process and, as starting point, political policy seems to be a great starting place;

(Councillors Scott, Brophy and Choi agree to work on it)

HOWIE

Added that if they create a fact document, for which they can get help from SU, then all of can contribute and work on it;

SUNDAY

Mentioned that there is statement that doesn't says anything about Students' Council;

HOWIE

Sai that as councillors they can't break political policy; she will talk with DG, and if also anything, including any word, has to be changed, then it will be changed;

JACK

Asked if he wants certain courses, then does it have to be through policy committee;

HOWIE

Replied that it has to be a presentation to Students' Council.

HOWIE

Said that she talk to Rebecca and to Chair of Bylaw Committee; Bylaw is doing review this year and she is the person doing it; if it has to be changed, she will change it; it doesn't have to be bylaw but it should be general document that students can see and easily understand; and she will have more information in the next meeting;

2017-06/3

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2017-06/3a

Student Financial Assistance Policy Renewal - First Principles

HOWIE

Said that changes in the policy were editorial as well as additions; they have to do it the right way; she has checked with VP Larsen; it will be an agenda item, and if they will all agree then they will be brought back; she made changes but hasn't made them easily detectable; and the language is now a bit stronger to reflect the actual resolutions;

Mentioned that in 2b and c, VP Larsen said that it is actually what they are doing;

SUNDAY

Asked if the first fact have to be changed; and said that if education is not for the public good; it can be, but not always;

HOWIE

Replied that education must be viewed as a public good;

PIASECKI

Questioned if it can about public service;

HOWIE

Said that it was VP Larsen's input; and she doesn't know how high-level advocacy works but VP Larsen does;

SUNDAY

Said that they can see through it as public good like in East Germany;

SCOTT

Expressed agreement with Councillor Sunday;

HOWIE

Said that she would agree as well but can't do anything now;

Motion:

SCOTT/SUNDAY move to table the Agenda Item 3a in the next meeting
7/0/0, CARRIED

2017-06/3b

Deferred Maintenance Policy Renewal

HOWIE

Said that they will talk about Student Financials in the next meeting;

SCOTT

Questioned if they as a committee look at it;

HOWIE

Said that she is just adding comments, and likely have it ready before Thursday, prior to the next meeting;

SCOTT

Mentioned that Robyn has been looking at student finance and been advocating for it; there are some language changes under Resolution 1.1; there is a change and they added one point for Deferred Financial Liability; and there is no long term plans for deferred maintenance;

Added that faculties of dentistry and pharmacy are building a bus loop, and province gave university some funding to fix buildings, on a project specific project funding; however, if things like water pumps are not working then they are deferred maintenance problems; all of the things cannot be fixed in a one-time funding but require long-term funding;

HOWIE

Said that it is something that they all are advocating to the province;

SCOTT

Said that they did not specifically talk about inflation, and that will be incorporated into the long term funding model;

HOWIE

Said that all their polices are CPI and API and so no there is no need to talk about inflation

Motion:

SCOTT/BROPHY move to present facts of Deferred Maintenance Policy
Renewal to council
7/0/0, CARRIED

HOWIE

Said that they can't have a meeting on Fall Reading Week and so it has to be the Thursday before that week; and they can do Straw Poll for either September 11th or 25th;

Meeting date was agreed upon as September 11th, time at 5 pm, and location of meetings is SUB 6-06 as always;

Motion:

HOWIE/CHOI move to have the next meeting on August 14th
7/0/0, CARRIED

2017-06/4

INFORMATION ITEMS

Fall Semester Meeting Schedule

- September 11, 2017 at 5:00PM in SUB 6-06.
- October 16, 2017 at 5:00PM in SUB 6-06.
- November 20 at 5:00PM in SUB 6-06.
- December 11, 2017 at 5:00PM in SUB 6-06

2017-06/5

ADJOURNMENT

2017-06/5a **Next Meeting:** Monday, August 14th at 6.30 pm

2017-06/5b Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
BROPHY/CHOI moved to approve the agenda	7/0/0, CARRIED
SCOTT/PIASECKI moved to approve the minutes with amendment	5/0/3, CARRIED
SCOTT/SUNDAY move to table the Agenda Item 3a in the next meeting	7/0/0, CARRIED

SCOTT/BROPHY move to present facts of Deferred Maintenance Policy Renewal to council	7/0/0, CARRIED
HOWIE/CHOI move to have the next meeting on August 14 th	7/0/0, CARRIED