

# POLICY COMMITTEE

#### Thursday, June 21, 2018 6:00 PM SUB 6-06

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, 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 and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

#### **AGENDA (PC-2018-03)**

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2018-03/1	INTRODUCTION
2018-03/1a	Call to Order
2018-03/1b	Approval of Agenda
2018-03/1c	Approval of Minutes
2018-03/1d	Chair's Business
2018-03/2	QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD
2018-03/2a	Focus group brainstorming for EDI policy
2018-03/3	COMMITTEE BUSINESS
2018-03/3a	Engagement, Feedback and reference documents from DG
2018-03/3b	Engagement, Feedback from UASU Events
2018-03/3c	Engagement, Fact update
2018-03/3d	Residence Policy, Second Reading
2018-03/3e	Internationalization Policy - First reading ready?
2018-03/4	INFORMATION ITEMS
2018-03/4a	<i>PC-2018-02-M</i> - Thursday, June 7, 2018, Minutes
	See PC-2018-03.01.
2018-03/4b	Policy Snack Schedule

See PC-2018-02.02.

2018-03/4c Residence Policy Draft

See PC-2018-02.03.

**2018-03/5 ADJOURNMENT** 

**2018-03/5a Next Meeting:** Thursday, July 5, 2018 @ 6:00PM in SUB 6-06.

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University of Alberta Students' Union

# POLICY COMMITTEE

#### Thursday, June 7, 2018 6:00 PM SUB 0-55

We would like to respectfully acknowledge that our University and our Students' Union are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We are grateful to be on Cree, Dene, 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 and work towards the decolonization of Indigenous knowledges and traditions.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Robert Bilak		Y	
Kara Farris		Y	
Mpoe Mogale		N	Y
Connor Palindat		Y	
Breanna Palmer		Y	
Stephen Raitz		Y	
Akanksha Bhatnagar (ex-officio)		Y	
Adam Brown (ex-officio)		N	Y
André Bourgeois (ex-officio)		Y	

#### **MINUTES (PC-2018-02)**

**2018-02/1 INTRODUCTION** 

2018-02/1a Call to Order

RAITZ: Called the meeting to order at 6:09PM.

2018-02/1b Approval of Agenda

**FARRIS/BOURGEOIS MOVED** to approve the agenda.

6/0/0 - CARRIED

#### 2018-02/1c Approval of Minutes

**BOURGEOIS/FARRIS MOVED** to approve the *PC-2018-01-M* minutes.

6/0/0 - CARRIED

#### 2018-02/1d Chair's Business

RAITZ: Determined to include agenda item time allotments to ensure meetings proceed according to schedule.

#### 2018-02/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

#### 2018-02/3 <u>COMMITTEE BUSINESS</u>

## **2018-02/3a** Review Residence Policy - 20 minutes See PC-2018-02.02.

BILAK: Identified that the Committee of last year considered the Policy ready for presentation.

MOGALE: Considered that the Policy could mention international students or non-binary persons as part of an inclusive living provision.

BHATNAGAR: Amended the Policy's first section to include the term 'inclusive' and read: "The Students' Union will advocate for accessible, affordable, clean, comfortable, inclusive, and secure residence for students".

BOURGEOIS: Recognised that the inclusivity provision accords with the work of the University to construct all-gender washrooms, change rooms, and other inclusive spaces. Inquired into whether the Policy includes a provision on tenant rights.

RAITZ: Responded that Section 10 relates to tenant rights.

PALMER: Inquired into how the Policy addresses issues of cost and affordability.

RAITZ: Responded that the Policy addresses cost issues but does not focus on them.

PALMER: Recognized the existence of subsidies and financial supports for student residence.

**BHATNAGAR/FARRIS MOVED** to approve the Residence Policy. Students' Council for First Reading. 6/0/0 - CARRIED

## **2018-02/3b** Review Internationalization Policy - 10 minutes See PC-2018-02.03.

PALMER: Reported that she liaised with Cllrs. Sunday and Cutarm on Internationalization. Noted that she added a comment relating to support programming. Determined to consult International Student Services and University of Alberta International with Bhatnagar. Confirmed that she updated the tracking document. Suggested including themes of sustainability as part of the Policy.

RAITZ: Proposed mid-July as a completion date for the Policy.

PALMER: Determined to invite the Campus Sustainability Office to present at Students' Council.

**2018-02/3c** Review general plan for each policy needing updating - 5 to 10 minutes each

RAITZ: Determined to discuss the (1) timeline, (2) scale of revision, and (3) scope of consultation and research as per each Policy renewal project.

BOURGEOIS: Reported on the Food Policy. Noted that review has yet to begin. Noted that work on the Food Policy will follow the completion of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy. Determined to begin the review after the implementation of new food options, meal plans, and cafeteria renovations.

RAITZ: Supported beginning consultations at the start of Fall 2018.

FARRIS: Suggested including the Single Source Beverage Agreement as a fact in the Policy.

BROWN: Reported on the Campus Saint-Jean Linguistic Accessibility Policy. Acknowledged the need to update the Policy to include provisions on expanded government advocacy. Determined to consult Cllr Haddouche and Fmr Cllr Howie. Planned to finish the Policy for Fall 2018.

RAITZ: Reported on Capital Projects Policy. Considered that the Policy may expand on Students' Union capital projects rather than focus exclusively on those of the University.

BHATNAGAR: Advised contacting Mark and Emma in relation to the Policy.

FARRIS: Reported on the Engagement Policy. Proposed dividing the Policy in two pillars: Campus-based engagement and issues-based engagement. Expressed intent to complete the Policy by Fall 2018. Determined to liaise with Bourgeois in order to connect with Students' Union Events and Student Services. Affirmed the value of connecting the Engagement Policy to existing Students' Union events and initiatives.

RAITZ: Determined to connect with former professors and a City of Edmonton

staff person to discuss the Policy. Advised that the Policy include general provisions that crystallize the principles of student engagement otherwise not codified in written policy.

PALMER: Inquired into the manner and method of Students' Union engagement.

FARRIS: Responded that the Students' Union engages students online, in-print, and in-person.

BILAK: Reported on the Experiential Learning Policy. Determined to begin work in September and finish early November. Determined to connect with non-Students' Union groups.

FARRIS: Recognized the difficulty of reforming programme-based course components.

BILAK: Identified the importance of advocating for experiential learning opportunities on short-term bases.

BHATNAGAR: Noted that the short-term opportunities are referred to as integrated experiential learning.

BOURGEOIS: Reported on the Gender Policy. Suggested expanding the Gender Policy to become an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy.

BHATNAGAR: Identified that, as the University Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy is under development, the Students' Union and University Administration can move forward together.

BOURGEOIS. Announced that research from the McGill and Dalhousie Universities influenced 22 new facts to be reviewed by the Committee. Requested members comment their feedback on the Google Document. Projected completing the Policy by early August.

FARRIS: Inquired into the viability of holding student focus groups in summer.

BOURGEOIS: Responded that the focus groups will only include councillors. Noted the importance of investigating existing external policies of this nature.

PALMER: Inquired into whether Pride, intersectionality, gender neutrality are to be included in the Policy.

BOURGEOIS: Responded that intersectionality is why the Gender Policy is to be expanded into a comprehensive Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy.

BHATNAGAR: Reported on the Quality Instruction Policy. Projected November 2018 for the completion of the Policy. Affirmed the importance of Universal

Student Ratings of Instruction accessibility. Noted that faculty associations and department associations are providing feedback to their academic vice-presidents.

FARRIS: Inquired into the extent to which USRI's influence instructors.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that USRI's influence instructor applications for tenure and awards.

PALMER: Inquired into the procedure for reporting an instructor for sexual misconduct.

BHATNAGAR: Advised contacting the Office of Safe Disclosure and Human Rights

BILAK: Reported on the Student Employment Policy. Noted that the Policy will align with the Council of Alberta University Students policy. Projected the Policy completion for Fall 2018.

FARRIS: Reported on the Students in Governance Policy. Determined to undertake the Policy review after the Students' Council by-elections, which will be used as a consultative opportunity.

PALMER: Reported on the Truth and Reconciliation Policy. Determined to send the Policy to Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation Committee. Projected completing the Policy after July.

MOGALE: Clarified that ARRC is acting as a support and not an active lead in Policy development.

BOURGEOIS: Suggested consulting Jackson Mirasty on the Truth and Reconciliation Policy development.

RAITZ: Determined to send midweek emails. Noted members should respond to the emails and propose their agenda items for policy updates and discussions.

BHATNAGAR: Determined to create a Policy Committee WhatsApp.

FARRIS: Determined to create a Committee snack rotation list which will be included in the next midweek email update.

#### 2018-02/4 INFORMATION ITEMS

**2018-02/4a** *PC-2018-01-M* - Thursday, May 24, 2018, Minutes

See PC-2018-02.01.

**2018-02/4b** Residence Policy Draft

See PC-2018-02.02.

**2018-02/4c** Internationalization Policy Draft

See PC-2018-02.03.

**2018-02/5 ADJOURNMENT** 

RAITZ: Adjourned the meeting at 7:21pm.

**2018-02/5a Next Meeting:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 @ 5:00PM in SUB 0-55.

### **SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

MOTION	VOTES
<b>FARRIS/BOURGEOIS MOVED</b> to approve the agenda.	6/0/0 - CARRIED
<b>BOURGEOIS /FARRIS MOVED</b> to approve the <i>PC-2018-01-M</i> minutes.	6/0/0 - CARRIED
<b>BHATNAGAR/FARRIS MOVED</b> to approve the Residence Policy. Students' Council for First Reading.	6/0/0 - CARRIED

Policy Snack Schedule

\*\*\$10 - \$15 maximum: Saving all of us money especially since we will only be
getting 2-3 times each for the ENTIRE year. If you won't be there at your
scheduled meeting you can switch\*\*

Meeting Date	Person
June 21	Kara Farris
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	Mpoe Mogale
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Breanna Palmer
August 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Akanksha Bhatnagar
August 16th	Adam Brown
August 30th	Andre Bourgeois
FALL (September 13 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Robert Bilak
FALL (September 27 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Stephen Raitz
FALL (October 11 <sup>th</sup> ?)	Connor Palindat
	Kara Farris
	Mpoe Mogale
	Breanna Palmer
	Akanksha Bhatnagar
	Adam Brown
	Andre Bourgeois
	Robert Bilak
	Stephen Raitz
	Connor Palindat
	Kara Farris
	Mpoe Mogale
	Breanna Palmer
•••	Akanksha Bhatnagar
141	Adam Brown
***	Andre Bourgeois
201	Robert Bilak
***	Stephen Raitz
101	Connor Palindat

#### 1 Facts

- 1. Residents require livable spaces in compliance with the Province of Alberta's Minimum Housing Standards.
- 2. Residents pay for and expect quality services such as laundry and kitchen appliances.
- 3. Residents need to be able to schedule around maintenance staff entering their units.
- 4. Residence services should follow clear deadlines with respect to inspections and notice of entry.
- 5. Residents have the opportunity to be present during move-in, interim, and move-out inspections.
- 6. Residence Associations are student representative associations and have the opportunity to make decisions on behalf of and provide programs for their constituents.
- 7. Residence Associations require office space, living space, the ability to communicate with their constituents, and clear guidelines as to their jurisdiction.
- 8. Residence Association finances require transparent and efficient fee collection, financial regulation, administration, and support in order to function.
- 9. Shared residence on University properties are exempt from the Residential Tenancies Act.<sup>1</sup>

#### 2 Resolutions

- 1. The Students' Union will advocate for accessible, affordable, clean, comfortable, inclusive, and secure residences for students.
- 2. The Students' Union will advocate for quality residence services and fair processes for students.
- 3. The Students' Union will oppose rent and food plan increases beyond the CPI unless increased funds benefit students living in residence directly.
- 4. The Students' Union will advocate that the residence fee schedule be consistent with respect to expenses and approved in a transparent manner.
- 5. The Students' Union will I advocate for the fair treatment and support of Residence Associations, so that they can best fulfil their mandate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/R17P1.pdf

- 6. The Students' Union will advocate that the Government of Alberta provide capital funds toward the development of additional student housing, only when such capital funds demonstrate a commitment to affordable housing.
- 7. The Students' Union will advocate for clear timelines on deferred maintenance in residences.
- 8. The Students Union will advocate that shared University residences be included under provincial regulation or legislation.

### 3 References

1. Government of Alberta. Accessed Jan. 30, 2018. "RESIDENTIAL TENANCIES ACT". Queens Access Printer. http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/R17P1.pdf