



**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Thursday, July 5, 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.

ATTENDANCE

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

MINUTES (PC-2018-04)

2018-04/1 INTRODUCTION

2018-04/1a Call to Order

RAITZ: Called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

2018-04/1b Approval of Agenda

BROWN/PALMER MOVED to approve and amend the agenda to include a review of the nonpartisan Policy as item *2018-04/3b*.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

2018-04/1c Approval of Minutes
PALMER/BILAK MOVED to approve the minutes of *PC-2018-03-M*.
6/0/1 - CARRIED

2018-04/1d Chair's Business

RAITZ: Identified Bilak as acting chair for the August 2nd meeting. Emphasised the significance of the August meeting for reviewing the August to October renewal of the Capital Management, Student Employment, and Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, policies as part of the segmented plan. Urged members to develop timelines and action items prior to the meeting. Updated on the Sunday v Students' Council (Speaker) translation ruling. Identified that the DIE ruling mandated (1) bylaws and policies of June 4th be immediately translated by September 4th and (2) a committee act in the long-term to immediately translate bylaws and policies after Council approval. Added that a translation audit will occur each year to ensure accuracy.

2018-04/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

PALMER: Inquired into the timeline for the Truth and Reconciliation Policy.

RAITZ: Noted that Palmer and ARRC can initially review the Policy to determine action items. Advised that Palmer raise the matter at the next ARRC meeting. Noted that the completion timeline for the Policy will be determined at a later date.

2018-04/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2018-04/3a Internationalization Policy - First Reading
See PC-2018-04.02.

PALMER: Established that she and Councillor Sunday believe the Internationalization Policy ready to be considered by Students' Council. Confirmed that the red font sections received edits.

BHATNAGAR: Noted that she met with University of Alberta International and International Student Services to discuss the Policy. Identified that the stakeholders did not raise concerns but supported recognising the cultural group council and their existence in the Policy. Determined to propose the changes as a note in the document.

MOGALE: Suggested amending Fact 1 to both note the current tuition statistics and address the likelihood of future increases.

BHATNAGAR: Noted that she can inquire into projected tuition statistics with University of Alberta International.

RAITZ: Recognised that the fact could note that increases are expected without providing particular values.

BROWN: Identified that §20 and §21 have no attached facts. Proposed transferring these sections, concerning international student employment, to the Student Employment Policy.

MOGALE: Proposed reordering §9 to follow §3 to improve the logical sequence.

BROWN: Suggested a general review of formatting, grammar, and organization of the Policy before approval.

MOGALE: Determined to edit the document directly with their suggestions.

RAITZ: Noted that after Palmer reviews the Policy, and the Committee confirms it, the Committee will send it to Discover Governance to be included at Students' Council. Requested Palmer review the Policy for the next meeting.

LEY: Inquired into whether Bhatnagar received feedback on §4(1), the grandfathering of student tuition, in her stakeholder consultation.

BHATNAGAR: Responded in the negative.

PALMER: Inquired into whether the Policy should reference the anticipated tuition changes of the Provincial government.

RAITZ: Responded that the Policy will not reference developing legislation as per *2018-03/3e* of last meeting.

LEY: Inquired into whether tuition grandfathering would be a University policy or a Government of Alberta policy.

MOGALE: Expressed concern over the ability of students to understand the term 'grandfathering'.

BHATNAGAR: Clarified that grandfathering means not retroactively amending the cost of tuition for existing international students.

LEY: Suggested replacing the term 'grandfathering' with a description of that to which it refers.

2018-04/3b Engagement - Draft 1
See PC-2018-04.03.

RAITZ: Established that the draft Policy is in a state of high-level review. Anticipated receiving Farris' feedback at the next meeting. Identified that bolded sections are new additions.

BROWN: Noted that some facts read as statements and do not include proof.

RAITZ: Inquired into whether policies set official Students' Union stances.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that Policy resolutions establish official stances.

BROWN: Considered that facts reinforce resolutions, and that facts do not set policy directions in absence of resolutions. Recalled that facts, in past, existed as principles and, therefore, older policies state facts as principles.

LEY: Inquired into what UASPPH references.

BHATNAGAR: Noted that UASPPH stands for the University of Alberta Student Participation Participation Process Handbook.

RAITZ: Expressed that Resolutions 5 and 6 enliven the Policy. Noted that Resolution 3 concerns the promotion of particular stances that reinforce actions from the SU.

PALMER: Inquired into whether the Policy should include 'be it resolved that' statements.

BROWN: Responded that the Resolutions heading serves the same purpose.

BHATNAGAR: Advised Palmer to review the pros and cons of such a large change.

RAITZ: Expressed concern over the value that 'be it resolved that' statements would provide to any policy.

BILAK: Noted that the Committee can amend grammar and semantics without Council approval insofar as they do not change the intent of a policy.

PALMER: Inquired into whether the Internationalization and Engagement Policies are to be sent to Council at the same time.

RAITZ: Responded that Internationalization can be confirmed at July 19th whereas Engagement may wait until August 2nd.

MOGALE: Recommended contacting David Peacock, director of the Community Service Learning Programme, for further consultation on the Policy.

2018-04/3b Nonpartisan Policy

BROWN: Noted that the Policy formalises an existing convention of nonpartisanship in the SU. Noted that he added Fact 4 recognising Students' Associations as elements of the Post-secondary Learning Act (PSLA). Established

that the Policy overall binds the SU to nonpartisanship and supports democracy and political discussion.

LEY: Inquired into how the policy relates to the SU taking public stances on political policies or positions strongly associated with particular political parties.

BROWN: Responded that, as per Resolution 3, the SU will advocate in any issue of student interest. Noted, as an example, the tuition freeze of 2015 was only proposed by the NDP but the SU took an official stance on the policy. Clarified that the SU does not support the NDP but rather the policy itself.

BHATNAGAR: Established that the SU seeks to represent the immediate interests of its students and thus does not, for example, take positions on foreign affairs.

LEY: Suggested amending Resolution 3 to exclude advocating on issues *not* of student interest, rather than mandating that SU advocacy *include* issues of student interest.

BROWN: Suggested, alternatively, that the Resolution could note that the SU must advocate *exclusively* on issues of student interest.

MOGALE: Noted that the Policy does not identify who determines matters of student interest.

BROWN: Differentiated between lobbying a partisan minister versus an independent ministry.

LEY: Proposed that the Policy regulate executive political conduct in specific.

BROWN: Responded that he is investigating regulating executive conduct through a bylaw at present.

PALMER: Considered that the word "union" in the organisational title creates concern for government.

BROWN: Responded that there is little difference between the words union and association in a title. Suggested that Fact 4, connecting the SU to the PSLA, differentiates the SU from a labour union.

PALMER: Considered that Fact 4 presumes that the reader understands the PSLA. Recommended further clarification.

RAITZ: Noted that the reference to the PSLA does not include the year of the Act. Proposed including a year in the event of legislative amendment.

LEY: Advised that Point 3 should not only restrict the SU to advocating parties and candidates on matters of student interest. Proposed including external

stakeholders in the list of parties.

MOGALE: Expressed confusion at Fact 3.

BROWN: Responded that it ensures the respect of diverse political views.

MOGALE: Expressed confusion at Resolution 7.

BROWN: Responded that it reinforces the importance of engaging students in democracy.

BHATNAGAR: Proposed recategorizing Resolution 7 as a Fact.

BROWN: Determined to investigate the change.

MOGALE: Proposed combining Resolutions 6 and 7.

BROWN: Determined to investigate the change.

BILAK: Proposed rewording Resolution 1 to add the terms “will not” “nor will it”.
Proposed rewording Resolution 2 to include the word ‘striving’.

RAITZ: Noted the phrase ‘shall be’ could also be utilized.

BROWN: Favoured the clarity of the existing categorical statement of nonpartisanship. Determined to bring the Policy back for further review at the next meeting.

2018-04/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2018-04/4a *PC-2018-03 Minutes*

See PC-2018-04.01.

2018-04/4b Internationalization Policy - First Reading

See PC-2018-04.02.

2018-04/4c Engagement - Draft 1

See PC-2018-04.03.

2018-04/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

RAITZ: Adjourned the meeting at 7:15pm.

2018-04/5a **Next Meeting:** Thursday, July 19, 2018 @ 6:00PM in SUB 6-06.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
BROWN/PALMER MOVED to approve and amend the agenda to include a review of the nonpartisan Policy as item <i>2018-04/3b</i> .	7/0/0 - CARRIED
PALMER/BILAK MOVED to approve the minutes of <i>PC-2018-03-M</i> .	6/0/1 - CARRIED