

# POLICY COMMITTEE

### Thursday, July 19, 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<br>WRITTEN FEEDBACK<br>(IF ABSENT) |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|--|
| Robert Bilak (acting chair)    |           | Y       |  |
| Kara Farris                    | Rowan Ley | Y       |  |
| Mpoe Mogale                    |           | Y       |  |
| Breanna Palmer                 |           | Y       |  |
| Stephen Raitz                  |           | N       |  |
| Akanksha Bhatnagar(ex-officio) |           | Y       |  |
| Adam Brown (ex-officio)        |           | Y       |  |
| André Bourgeois (ex-officio)   |           | Y       |  |
| Reed Larsen                    |           | Y       |  |

#### **MINUTES (PC-2018-05)**

**2018-05/1 INTRODUCTION** 

2018-05/1a Call to Order

BILAK: Called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

2018-05/1b Approval of Agenda

**BROWN/PALMER MOVED** to approve the agenda.

7/0/0 - CARRIED.

BILAK: Proposed adding an Internationalization Policy confirmation item to the agenda in the Committee Business section as 2018-05/3b.

PALMER: Proposed adding a Truth and Reconciliation Policy discussion item to the Question and Discussion section as *2018-05/2b*.

**BROWN/PALMER MOVED** to amend and approve the agenda to reflect these changes.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

#### 2018-05/1c Approval of Minutes

**PALMER/BHATNAGAR MOVED** to approve the minutes of *PC-2018-04-M*.

6/0/1 - CARRIED

#### 2018-05/1d Chair's Business

BILAK: Encouraged members to respond to the released Doodle Poll. Encouraged the Committee to consider which councillor should fill the vacancy of Palindat.

#### 2018-05/2 **QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

#### **2018-05/2a** Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy

BOURGEOIS: Established that the University of McGill is assisting in drafting the Policy. Noted that the Policy will take longer than anticipated to finalise. Identified August 13 as the deadline for a draft Policy with consultation extending into Fall. Noted that finalisation is subject to the results of the consultation.

MOGALE: Noted that there is a plan to create a subcommittee especially for developing the Policy.

BOURGEOIS: Considered that a subcommittee will allow the Policy to receive the attention it requires. Noted that the collaboration between staff and councillors will be beneficial.

LARSEN: Identified that the subcommittee will likely emerge as an ad-hoc committee. Noted that consultations in Fall will enjoy the presence of stakeholders on Campus.

BOURGEOIS: Noted that the McGill Policy is very broad and encompassing. Supported their use of definitions. Noted that the Universities of Dalhousie and Toronto also act as resources for the Policy.

LARSEN: Likened the McGill Policy to an authoritative government report (white paper).

BROWN: Noted that the Policy is relatively large when compared with existing

political policies. Considered that an ad-hoc committee will provide sufficient support.

BOURGEOIS: Determined to inquire with McGill on issues relating to the scope of their consultation, their involvement of and experience with university administration, the manner in which they authored the report, their experience with a definitions, facts, and resolutions structure, their willingness to share elements of their policy, and their willingness to review a draft of the Policy.

BILAK: Inquired into the existence of a University of Alberta EDI Policy.

BHATNAGAR: Responded that the University is developing an EDI policy at present.

LARSEN: Noted that, by comparison, McGill developed their EDI policy in three years. Expressed a willingness to review the state of diversity on Council itself.

MOGALE: Considered that, at least in this term, there is an increased diversity in Council. Noted that there may be change in future terms.

LARSEN: Supported increased diversity on Council.

#### **2018-05/2b** Truth and Reconciliation Policy (Reconciliation Policy)

PALMER: Established that Sunday and ARRC rejected the Policy and suggested a comprehensive redraft, including renaming the Policy. Determined to set-up a joint Policy and ARRC meeting. Noted that Sunday provided literature on statistics specific to Aboriginal students and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action. Expressed concern over deviating from established University and Students' Council language for land recognition.

BOURGEOIS: Noted that the Policy need not necessarily avoid uncomfortable language.

MOGALE: Suggested Policy permit ARRC to draft the language for the land acknowledgement.

BOURGEOIS: Inquired into whether community consultation occurred for the Students' Union reconciliation statement, which occurs at the top of the agenda paper.

LARSEN: Responded that they did complete a consultation.

BOURGEOIS: Supported utilising the existing reconciliation statement.

LARSEN: Expressed concern over redeveloping the whole of the Policy.

MOGALE: Noted that the Policy was rejected in large part due to the rushed appearance of its language and construction.

LARSEN: Confirmed that the Policy's underlying ideas and values, as in the Calls to Action, are not being considered for redevelopment.

PALMER: Identified that the Policy remains to address issues such as intergenerational trauma, Aboriginal admissions pathways, funding opportunities, and employment.

BHATNAGAR: Advised tabling discussion until the joint Policy and ARRC meeting.

BILAK: Inquired into whether members have general concerns at present.

BHATNAGAR: Identified that the Policy must receive correction to reflect the fact that political policies no longer use framing language of "Whereas" and "Be it Resolved".

LARSEN: Noted that the term "shall" can be used.

#### 2018-05/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

**2018-05/3a BROWN/BHATNAGAR MOVED** to approve the First Principles of the Non-Partisan Political Policy.

See PC-2018-05.03.

BROWN: Established that he amended Resolution 3 to change the scope of advocacy from matters of student interest to that which arises from Council political policies. Noted that the amended Resolutions 6 and 7 by combining them.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

## **2018-05/3b PALMER/BILAK MOVED** to approve the first principles of the Internationalization Policy.

BHATNAGAR: Expressed concern over the readiness of the Policy to proceed to Council. Noted that its formatting and language requires further review.

PALMER: Inquired into whether there are concerns about the ordering of provisions.

LARSEN: Noted that there are a number of sources that still require determination. Noted they the Department of Research can provide Palmer assistance in locating sources. Determined to follow-up with a draft by next meeting. Determined to compare the Policy with similar Council of Alberta University Students policy.

BOURGEOIS: Advised that Research also strengthen the Policy's phrasing and language to a standard compatible with other political politics.

LEY: Identified that Fact 10 includes the characters "xx" as a placeholder for information that is not yet added.

PALMER: Noted that there is a comment attached to the Fact on the Google document but Ley cannot access it on mobile.

MOGALE: Identified that suggestions from meetings prior, including the plan to remove the term "grandfathering" in Resolution 9(a)(b), have not been incorporated.

LARSEN: Advised that the Committee review the Policy line-by-line as a discussion item after Research provides a reviewed and corrected draft.

MOGALE: Encouraged Palmer to inform the Committee if she requires assistance.

0/7/0 - FAILED

#### 2018-05/4 <u>INFORMATION ITEMS</u>

**2018-05/4a** *PC-2018-04* Minutes

See PC-2018-05.01.

**2018-05/4b** Resignation from Policy Committee - PALINDAT, Connor.

See PC-2018-05.02.

**2018-05/4c** First Principles of the Non-Partisan Political Policy.

See PC-2018-05.03.

**2018-05/5 ADJOURNMENT** 

BILAK: Adjourned the meeting at 6:51pm.

**2018-05/5a Next Meeting:** Thursday, August 2, 2018 @ 6:00PM in SUB 6-06.

#### **SUMMARY OF MOTIONS**

| MOTION   | VOTES           |
|--|-----------------|
| BROWN/PALMER MOVED to amend and approve the agenda to reflect these changes. | 7/0/0 - CARRIED |

| PALMER/BHATNAGAR MOVED to approve the minutes of <i>PC-2018-04-M</i> .                      | 6/0/1 - CARRIED |
|---|-----------------|
| BROWN/BHATNAGAR MOVED to approve the First Principles of the Non-Partisan Political Policy. | 7/0/0 - CARRIED |
| PALMER/BILAK MOVED to approve the first principles of the Internationalization Policy.      | 0/7/0 - FAILED  |