



University of Alberta Students' Union

POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

5:00 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-2018-18)

2018-18/1 INTRODUCTION

2018-18/1a Call to Order

2018-18/1b Approval of Agenda

2018-18/1c Approval of Minutes

2018-18/1d Chair's Business

2018-18/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2018-18/2a EDI Updates

2018-18/2b Assessment and Grading Policy Overview

See PC-2018-18.02.

2018-18/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2018-18/3a RAITZ MOVES to approve Second Reading of the Food Policy.

2018-18/4 INFORMATION ITEMS

2018-18/4a PC-2018-17 Minutes

See PC-2018-18.01.

2018-18/4b Assessment and Grading Policy Overview

See PC-2018-18.02.

2018-18/5 ADJOURNMENT

2018-18/5a Next Meeting: TBA.



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ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Robert Bilak		Y	
Deirdra Cutarm		Y	
Mpoe Mogale		N	
Rowan Ley		Y	
Nathan Sunday		Y	
Stephen Raitz (chair)		Y	
Akanksha Bhatnagar(ex-officio)		N	Y
Adam Brown (ex-officio)		Y	
André Bourgeois (ex-officio)		Y	

MINUTES (PC-2018-17)

2018-17/1 INTRODUCTION

2018-17/1a **Call to Order**

RAITZ: Called the meeting to order at 5:04pm

2018-17/1b **Approval of Agenda**

BROWN/BOURGEOIS MOVED to amend the agenda by adding items 2018-17/3b and 2018-17/3d.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

BOURGEOIS/BROWN MOVED to amend the agenda by adding item 2018-17/3c
7/0/0 - CARRIED

RAITZ/BILAK MOVED to amend the agenda by adding item 2018-17/2a.
7/0/0 - CARRIED

RAITZ/BILAK MOVED to approve the agenda as amended.
7/0/0 - CARRIED

2018-17/1c Approval of Minutes

BROWN/LEY MOVED to approve the minutes of *PC-2018-16-M*

2018-17/1d Chair's Business

RAITZ: Expressed concern that the Committee overlooked the need to renew Health and Wellness, Linguistic Accessibility, and Assessment and Grading Policies.

BROWN: Noted that, without renewal, expired policies are rendered inactive and are removed from the website.

LEY: Proposed that the Committee renew these policies, without review as a temporary measure to ensure they remain active, but with the expectation that they are reconsidered in the next year.

BILAK: Expressed concern that reviewing the policies in the next year would not be possible as they are only reviewed every three years.

LEY: Determined to bring the Second Reading of the Food Policy for the next meeting.

SUNDAY: Determined to review the Reconciliation Policy at the next meeting of ARRC.

2018-17/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2018-17/2a Meeting Schedule

RAITZ: Expressed concern that the next meeting will occur on the February 26th which is a Council day. Considered, alternatively, scheduling the next meeting for March 1st.

LEY: Inquired into how many Committee meetings remain until the end of the term with this change.

RAITZ: Responded that there would be four workable Committee meetings and three Council meetings remaining.

LEY: Expressed concern that the new schedule would not allow persons running for elections to advance their policies.

BROWN: Clarified that policies can be presented to Council by the chair if a member is unable.

RAITZ: Determined to meet on March 12, March 19th, and April 2nd then returning to the regular bi-weekly meeting schedule.

2018-17/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2018-17/3a **RAITZ/BOURGEOIS MOVES** to approve the Second Reading of the Engagement Political Policy.

See PC-2018-17.02.

RAITZ: Established that Bhatnagar provided friendly amendments to reword Fact 3, add citations, and correct grammar.

SUNDAY: Proposed ending 2(a) with a semicolon and an 'and' as well as ending 2(b) with a period.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

2018-17/3b **BROWN/LEY MOVED** to approve the First Reading of the Campus Saint-Jean Policy.

BROWN: Established that the renewal included adding Fact 2, reordering the Facts, adding Resolution 2 to have surveys in French and English, adding Resolution 5 based on the Town Hall at Saint-Jean, and expanding Resolution 10 to support inter-faculty collaboration.

SUNDAY MOVED to replace each instance of 'will' with 'shall' in the resolutions. Carried as friendly.

BILAK: Inquired into whether this Policy includes the former Linguistic Accessibility Policy.

BROWN: Responded in the affirmative.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that there is neither an Aboriginal space nor Aboriginal services at the Saint-Jean Campus. Suggested addressing these issues in the Policy.

BROWN: Considered that, being mindful of overlap, the items should not be included in the Policy if they are otherwise being addressed in the ARRC Recommendations.

SUNDAY: Proposed that the provision read that the “Students’ Union shall advocate for the creation of a dedicated Aboriginal student gathering space at Campus Saint-Jean.”

7/0/0 - CARRIED

2018-17/3c **BOURGEOIS MOVED** to approve the First Reading of the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Policy.

BOURGEOIS: Established that he and Mogale consulted Dr Wendy Doughty, First People’s House, graduate students, and other relevant persons and student groups. Noted that the Policy is based on the University EDI Plan and the McGill Equity Policy. Clarified that the Policy’s definitions come from the McGill Policy and that the Resolutions arose from consultations.

SUNDAY: Proposed that ‘Indigenous’ needs to be capitalised in 3(9).

LEY: Proposed that each instance of ‘will’ become ‘shall’ to adhere to the standard phrasing for political policies.

SUNDAY: Noted that Facts 7 and 9 should mention Indigenous persons.

CUTARM: Expressed concern at the phrasing of Fact 12’s language of ‘complex disability that people present’.

BOURGEOIS: Clarified that the present wording is based on consultations. Noted that the term ‘experienced’ could work as well.

LEY: Inquired into whether Fact 11 suggests that it is becoming likely over time or students are more likely than other groups to experience these disabilities.

BOURGEOIS: Responded that a higher proportion of students are identified as those with multiple or complex disabilities now more than in the past.

CUTARM: Considered that amending Fact 11 will make Fact 12 clearer by giving it more context.

LEY: Expressed concern that it is not clear whether more people are coming forward to request accommodation or more people are arriving with disabilities.

BOURGEOIS: Suggested that it could be that more persons are coming forward and that more students are entering the University with disabilities than in past.

SUNDAY: Expressed concern that Resolution 17 is hypocritical insofar as it advocates the University to adopt formalised mandatory training for its staff while the Students' Union does not have such training. Proposed amending Resolution 18 to include the phrase 'leadership roles' in addition to mentioning services and administration staff.

MOGALE: Proposed the use of the term 'at the upper level'

BOURGEOIS: Inquired into whether the term "some" should be used to qualify the groups that are not represented in governance. Noted that the employment equity data shows a successful achievement of employment equity based on the Alberta population demographics for certain groups.

MOGALE: Suggested that this would require the groups that are not represented to be listed.

BOURGEOIS: Supported recognising all groups that need to have a higher representation in governance.

RAITZ: Expressed concern that recognising particular groups is too specific for the Policy and that these groups change over time.

SUNDAY: Proposed switching 'oppression' with 'colonisation' in the Policy.

BOURGEOIS: Expressed concern that the term 'colonisation' is not intersectional as it does not extend to all persons relevant to the Policy.

SUNDAY: Proposed including a provision on colonisation as a separate point.

RAITZ: Determined to table the item until the next meeting to allow the Committee more time to consider the Policy.

MOGALE: Suggested expanding STRIDE to create a new programme to support Black and Indigenous People of Color to get and stay involved in student governance.

2018-17/3c **BROWN/BOURGEOIS MOVED** to approve the Second Reading to Student Employment Policy.

BROWN: Established that Council had no proposed changes to the Policy and that there were no changes since First Reading.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

2018-17/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2018-17/4a *PC-2018-16 Minutes*

See PC-2018-17.01.

2018-17/4b Second Reading - Engagement Political Policy

See PC-2018-17.02.

2018-17/5 **ADJOURNMENT**
RAITZ: Adjourned the meeting at 5:56pm.

2018-17/5a **Next Meeting:** TBA.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
BROWN/BOURGEOIS MOVED to amend the agenda by adding items <i>2018-17/3b</i> and <i>2018-17/3d</i> .	7/0/0 - CARRIED
BOURGEOIS/BROWN MOVED to amend the agenda by adding item <i>2018-17/3c</i>	7/0/0 - CARRIED
RAITZ/BILAK MOVED to amend the agenda by adding item <i>2018-17/2a</i> .	7/0/0 - CARRIED
RAITZ/BILAK MOVED to approve the agenda as amended.	7/0/0 - CARRIED
BROWN/LEY MOVED to approve the minutes of <i>PC-2018-16-M</i>	7/0/0 - CARRIED
RAITZ/BOURGEOIS MOVES to approve the Second Reading of the Engagement Political Policy.	7/0/0 - CARRIED
BROWN/LEY MOVED to approve the First Reading of the Campus Saint-Jean Policy.	7/0/0 - CARRIED
BROWN/BOURGEOIS MOVED to approve the Second Reading to Student Employment Policy.	7/0/0 - CARRIED

Expires: April 30, 2018

1 Facts

1. Grades are extremely important to students for tracking progress of learning and personal growth.
2. Assessment and grading of undergraduate students' academic performance and learning outcomes are central to the university's core academic mission and the most critical determinant of further academic and future career opportunities pursued by undergraduate students upon graduation.
3. The U of Alberta Policies and Procedures On-line (UAPPOL) Grading Procedure states that course expectations regarding assignments, grading and other course related matters must be communicated clearly in the course syllabus.
4. Section 23.4.(2).f of Evaluation Procedures and Grading System of the University of Alberta University Calendar states "Each assessment is linked to the stated course objectives and/or learning outcomes. Students should be provided with the criteria for these assessments early in and, if necessary, throughout the course".
5. There is work remaining to ensure practices around the University of Alberta are structured to increase student success.
6. The importance of complex performance based learning in undergraduate education continues to grow and many courses across faculties and programs incorporate at least some form of such learning to enhance student success.
7. Holistic rating scales or rubrics are applied (explicitly or implicitly) during evaluation of complex performance based learning which use learning objectives that encompass more than one aspect of performance and cannot be easily broken out into component parts.
8. Use of rubrics ensure the measurement process (i.e. the assessment of performance) is free of error, reliable and consistent in producing "same results" (can refer to same ranking – relative reliability – or the same exact score – absolute reliability), thus improving the overall quality of assessment.
9. There is evidence to suggest that rubrics can be used to evaluate a wide variety of student assignments, and strong research evidence substantiates the claim that rubrics help positively improve teaching and learning.
10. There are many academic support services available to students across campus.

2 Resolutions

1. Students should be able to understand why they received any grade.
2. Students should be able to understand how the assessments they receive are related to the overall course objectives.
3. Assignments should be structured to increase student success.
4. Students should explicitly know what is expected of them in any given course in terms of assignments, tests and participation.
5. Students should be regularly made aware of their progress and academic performance in any given course.
6. Students should be made aware of their academic performance before the withdrawal deadline in any given course.
7. Rubrics should be commonly used for the purpose of assessing performance- based learning assignments and be made available to students.
8. The Students' Union should strive to create awareness around the academic support services available to help students improve.