



University of Alberta Students' Union

POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

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 2019-04)

- 2019-04/1 INTRODUCTION**
- 2019-04/1a Call to Order**
- 2019-04/1b Approval of Agenda**
- 2019-04/1c Approval of Minutes**
- 2019-04/1d Chair's Business**
- 2019-04/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**
- 2019-04/2a VP Agarwal Presents Policy Timelines**
- 2019-04/2b VP Brown Presents Policy Timelines**
- 2019-04/2c Policy Renewal**
- 2019-04/2d Indigenous Students Policy First Principles**
- 2019-04/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS**
- 2019-04/3a VARGAS ALBA MOVES to pass Indigenous Students Policy First Principles**
- 2019-04/4 INFORMATION ITEMS**
- 2019-04/4a Policy Committee Minutes (PC-2019-03-M) - Tuesday, June 11, 2019.**

See PC-2019-04.01.
- 2019-04/5 ADJOURNMENT**
- 2019-04/5a Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 9, 2019 in SUB 6-06 @ 6:30PM.**



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ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT	SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN FEEDBACK (IF ABSENT)
Juan Vargas Alba (chair)		Y	
Abigail Isaac		Y	
Amber Sayed		Y	
Phoebe Marinakis		Y	
Samantha Tse		Y	
Katie Kidd		Y	
Joel Agarwal		N	
Adam Brown	Luke Statt	Y	Y
Jared Larsen		Y	

MINUTES (PC 2019-03)

2019-03/1 INTRODUCTION

2019-03/1a Call to Order
VARGAS ALBA: Called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2019-03/1b Approval of Agenda
LARSEN/SAYED MOVED to approve the agenda.
5/0/1 - CARRIED
Statt abstains.

2019-03/1c

Approval of Minutes

LARSEN/KIDD MOVED to approve the minutes of PC-2019-02-M.

5/0/1 - CARRIED

Statt abstains.

2019-03/1d

Chair's Business

VARGAS ALBA: Noted that the approval of the Indigenous Policy will be delayed as Sunday is adding more content to it. Noted that he will miss a meeting in mid-July and requires a proxy chair. Noted that the Committee will miss two meetings at maximum.

2019-03/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2019-03/2a

'Students who Parent' Policy - Presentation, Vice-President Larsen

LARSEN: Determined to begin the background research in mid-August on demographic statistics, current University policies, and stakeholder identification. Determined to draft a survey in mid-September and begin setting times for focus groups. Identified the white paper planned completion date as mid-November.

KIDD: Inquired into how students at large will be consulted.

LARSEN: Responded that they will be engaged in the focus groups and survey.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether the student engagement will target indigenous people in particular.

LARSEN: Responded that he will consult with Aboriginal Student Council, First People House, and the ARRC Recommendations.

KIDD: Inquired into whether there are plans to engage international students in particular.

LARSEN: Responded that they will be converted in the survey and they are looking at working with University of Alberta International.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether Larsen has engaged with any of the other groups that are currently working on this topic.

LARSEN: Responded that he worked with them in relation to housing. Noted, however, that the issues this policy will address are in relation to academic concerns.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether he has a budget for engagement.

LARSEN: Responded in the negative.

VARGAS ALBA: Confirmed that he is continuing to try and find training opportunities from Discover Governance.

KIDD: Proposed better staggering the approval of policy to prevent unbalanced workloads depending upon the year in which a councillor serves.

VARGAS ALBA: Supported Kidd. Noted that the Committee can try approving more and that some renewals do not require much work. Determined to submit a written question to the chair of Bylaw.

2019-03/2b

Policy Renewal

VARGAS ALBA: Noted that it is possible to approve multiple first readings at one meeting. Emphasised that the renewal should have begun for Public Transit and Tuition by the next meeting.

SAYED: Noted that she is doing background research on the Deferred Maintenance Policy. Identified the scale of revision as medium.

STATT: Proposed that Sayed serve on the UASU deferred maintenance task force as there is overlap in her renewal of this policy.

TSE: Noted that the renewal of the Mandatory Non-Instructional Fees has begun.

KIDD: Added that the renewal will focus on making fees more transparent and ensuring that they accommodate the student body and its diversity.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether there are projections for the completion of First Principles.

TSE: Responded that they first have to consult with Brown on expanding the research effort.

KIDD: Noted that they will also use materials from the SU Survey.

VARGAS ALBA: Directed members to add their dates of expected first principle completion on the tracker.

LARSEN: Noted that the Sexual Violence Policy received a review, has a plan created for engaging with stakeholders. Noted that he has identified data sources.

TSE: Inquired into whether the existing University sexual violence policy will be useful.

LARSEN: Responded in the affirmative. Noted the disclosure and complaints

procedure will be helpful.

LARSEN: Noted the renewal of this policy will take longer because of the ongoing third party review of University Appeal Board. Determined to implement asks from that review in the Policy.

2019-03/2c

Indigenous Students' Policy

KIDD: Inquired into whether Fact 4 is relevant to the University of Alberta.

TSE: Responded that it is relevant if connected to resolution.

KIDD: Identified that the Fact connected to Resolution 4.

LARSEN: Proposed advocating that the University allocate more funds to complete outreach in order to target rural areas for enrollment.

KIDD: Proposed advocating that the University expand its outreach efforts with schools in reserves.

TSE: Emphasised that facts should match resolutions in how the documents are laid out.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded that facts generally match resolutions.

KIDD: Expressed concern that Fact 10b has an uncharacteristically large gap in its percentage.

LARSEN: Expressed concern that the statistic used in the Fact should not be ranged.

VARGAS ALBA: Determined to inquire in relation to this fact with Sunday.

KIDD: Inquired into why life expectancy is mentioned in Fact 5.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded that this measure is used in health outcomes.

KIDD: Responded that end of life health is not relevant to the Policy. Expressed concern that it is hard to connect a given fact with the resolution to which it corresponds.

TSE: Proposed including the facts just above the resolution to which they relate.

VARGAS ALBA: Clarified that the Committee cannot make such changes to the structure of policy without change in bylaw.

VARGAS ALBA: Suggested that some facts may not relate to a resolution. Considered that one fact can relate to more than one resolution.

TSE: Proposed including a bracketed list of numbered facts next to each resolution that indicate the facts to which the resolution relates.

LARSEN: Expressed concern that R7 has unnecessary facts associated with it.

TSE: Established that she rephrased some sections for clarity. Emphasised the need for concision.

VARGAS ALBA: Confirmed that the Committee can work on condensing the Policy.

LARSEN: Expressed concern that the Policy has many more facts than other policies and the reason for their existence will be unclear when, in future sessions of Council, the authors cannot be consulted.

VARGAS ALBA: Considered that the Policy reuses many of the statistics in the ARRC Recommendations.

TSE: Proposed citing the ARRC recommendations or having a hyperlink to them.

KIDD: Inquired into why 11(a)(3)(4) refers to a decline in Indigenous fertility.

MARINAKIS: Requested that the author of the Policy highlight which facts connect to which resolutions.

STATT: Proposed having Sunday come to a meeting to deliver a presentation on the content of the Policy.

VARGAS ALBA: Invited members to attend a meeting with ARRC. Proposed having the Policy for approval at the meeting after next.

2019-03/3

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2019-03/3a

ALBA MOVES to approve the First Principles of the Indigenous Student Policy.

2019-03/4

INFORMATION ITEMS

2019-03/4a

Policy Committee Minutes (PC-2019-02-M) - Tuesday, May 28, 2019.

See PC-2019-03.01.

2019-03/5

ADJOURNMENT

VARGAS ALBA: Adjourned the meeting at 7:06pm.

2019-03/5a

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 2019 in SUB 6-06 @ 6:30PM.