



**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

6:30 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, Sauleaux, 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)
Juan Vargas Alba (chair)		Y	
Abigail Isaac		Y	
Amber Sayed		N	
Phoebe Marinakis		N	
Samantha Tse		Y	
Katie Kidd	Adarsh Badesha	Y	
Joel Agarwal		Y	
Adam Brown	Luke Statt	Y	Y
Jared Larsen		Y	
Amlan Bose		Y	

MINUTES (PC 2019-04)

2019-04/1 INTRODUCTION

2019-04/1a Call to Order
VARGAS ALBA: Called the meeting to order at 6:38pm

2019-04/1b Approval of Agenda
LARSEN/AGARWAL MOVED to approve the agenda.
7/0/0 CARRIED

CARRIED

2019-04/1c

Approval of Minutes

LARSEN/ISAAC MOVED to approve the minutes of PC-2019-04-M.

7/0/0 - CARRIED

2019-04/1d

Chair's Business

VARGAS ALBA: Noted that the Committee will not vote on the Indigenous Policy today as it must first ensure that the linked materials are up-to-date and make a few changes. Clarified that the Policy requires consultation with ARRC and was not, in fact, drafted by Sunday. Suggested that members of the Committee review the Policy independently. Notified that he will Skype into the next meeting. Determined to cancel the meeting on July 23. Anticipated approving First Readings of a number of policies after July 23.

2019-04/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2019-04/2a

VP Agarwal Presents Policy Timelines

AGARWAL: Outlined that he intends to begin a draft of the Free Expression Policy for July 9 and complete the Policy for end of August. Clarified that the University has a free expression working group which must create a policy or adopt the Chicago Principles by September 23 with enforcement starting October 15. Considered that freedom of expression may or may not become an issue on Campus.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed ensuring that the Policy differentiate between freedom of expression and academic freedom.

BROWN: Supported this suggestion.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether the provincial government will force universities to adopt the Chicago Principles if a given institution has not prepared its own policy.

BROWN: Responded that, at his point, they are unaware.

BADESHA: Inquired into what the Students' Union can do in relation to its Free Expression Policy while the University is formulating its own.

AGARWAL: Suggested that the Committee investigate models in other institutions and complete consultation.

TSE: Considered having a freedom of expression discussion over email in order to reduce the amount of time spent during the upcoming Council meeting.

AGARWAL: Determined to bring the issue forward as a discussion item in Council. Emphasised that the discussion is nuanced and complex.

2019-04/2b

VP Brown Presents Policy Timelines

BROWN: Outlined that the SU requires a political policy in order to direct future advocacy efforts and protect groups that would be impacted by a change with adopting the voluntary student union fee funding model.

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into whether the government indicated that it will pursue change on this issue.

BROWN: Responded that the current Minister of Advanced Education, in a recent interview with the Gateway, noted that implementing VSU is not now a priority.

BOSE: Inquired into how quickly this change would occur if enacted.

BROWN: Considered that it would be a slower implementation in Alberta, as compared with Ontario, as the government would have to amend the Post-Secondary Learning Act. Outlined that the Augustana Policy is going to be created with reference to municipal issues to Camrose. Considered that a binding political policy will result in more direct action being taken on behalf of Augustana students. Noted that the Research department is working on this Policy currently. Anticipated presenting the Policy for First Reading in October.

2019-04/2c

Policy Renewal

TSE: Updated, regarding the Mandatory Non Instructional Fee Policy, that she will begin work soon and the Policy will be quick to finish.

BROWN: Updated, regarding the Public Transit Policy that he has scheduled time to begin work on this next week.

AGARWAL: Updated, regarding the Scholarships and Bursaries Policy, that they have a working plan.

LARSEN: Updated, regarding the Sexual Violence Policy, that he met with Sexual Assault Research Centre to audit the facts of the existing Policy and that the Research Department is now working to get more facts relating to a western community of practice. Confirmed that there will likely be new resolutions.

VARGAS ALBA: Updated, regarding the Student Spaces Policy, that the team will be meeting later this week to draft First Principles. Considered that there may be something for the next meeting.

BROWN: Updated, regarding the Tuition Policy that he has scheduled time to begin work on this next week.

2019-04/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

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**

VARGAS ALBA: Adjourned the meeting at 7:09pm.

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