



**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, September 5, 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.

ATTENDANCE

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

MINUTES (PC 2019-08)

2019-08/1 INTRODUCTION

2019-08/1a Call to Order
VARGAS ALBA: Called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

2019-08/1b Approval of Agenda
BROWN/KIDD MOVED to approve the agenda.
CARRIED

2019-08/1c Approval of Minutes

BROWN/ISAAC MOVED to approve the minutes of PC-2019-06-M.
CARRIED

2019-08/1d

Chair's Business

VARGAS ALBA: Noted that, in place of an official meeting on August 20, a few members of the Committee met to discuss the Committee's summer performance and their schedules moving forward. Noted that the group expressed concern at the summer's learning curve and tight timelines. Expressed concern that the Committee is behind on its renewal schedule. Considered that scheduling and communication could be improved moving forward.

2019-08/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2019-08/2a

Mandatory Non Instructional Fee Policy

TSE: Noted that she met with Academic Planning Committee of the General Faculty Council and President Bhatnagar in relation to renewing this Policy. Identified that she added a footnote in the facts as a result of these meetings. Outlined that the Policy's Resolutions fall within five themes: economic (ensuring affordability), political (establishing a framework for describing which fees are classified as non-instructional), guiding (advising the University), administrative (allowing the Students' Union Executive to support increasing fees depending upon some criteria), and social (ensuring students are represented in MNIF decision making).

VARGAS ALBA: Inquired into how the procedure for increasing MNIF's occurs.

BROWN: Responded that the University administration would most likely make a request but that the Students' Union can propose an increase.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed that the Policy emphasize that increasing MNIF costs should be a last resort measure only.

BROWN: Disagreed with Vargas Alba. Suggested that it would be inappropriate for the Committee to enforce a view such as this on future sessions of Council. Suggested that proposals for increasing MNIF's should be reviewed on a case wherein Council considers each proposal on its own merits. Proposed clarifying in Resolution 7 that 'Students' Council may vote in affirmation for the implementation of a new or modification of an existing MNEF'.

TSE: Supported implementing this change.

BROWN: Expressed concern that the Policy uses the term 'requesting student party' which could prevent a non-student from proposing an MNEF fee increase.

TSE: Determined to use the phrase 'requesting party' alternatively. Noted that the requesting party must complete adequate student consultation to have its MNEF proposal accepted.

AGARWAL: Proposed that the Policy show that, in addition to supporting the implementation and increases of MNFEF's, Students' Council can also oppose them.

TSE: Determined to implement this change.

TSE/BROWN MOVED to approve the Mandatory Non Instructional Fee Policy for Second Reading at Students' Council.

CARRIED

2019-08/2b

Scholarships and Bursaries Policy

AGARWAL: Outlined that the Policy shifts the focus of the Students' Union Awards toward providing financial aid to students in need. Noted that, in addition, the Policy allows the Students' Union to advocate the University and government for increased investment in student research.

VARGAS ALBA/KIDD MOVED to approve the Scholarships and Bursaries Policy for Second Reading at Students' Council.

CARRIED

2019-08/2c

Student Space Policy

SAYED: Indicated that the Student Space Policy Resolutions are under development and will be ready for approval at the next meeting.

2019-08/2d

Sexual Violence Policy

BROWN: Identified that Vice President Larsen added Fact 3(i) recognizing Indigenous woman on the recommendation of Councillor Sunday.

VARGAS ALBA: Proposed that Fact 3(i) read that 'the gendered and racialized violence enacted on Indigenous women and two spirit people is a direct result of the Canadian colonial project and mindset.'

AGARWAL: Considered that the Policy would be stronger if left more general, not mentioning two groups in particular.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded that the intent of Fact 3 is to identify why instances of sexual violence occur more frequently for some social groups rather than provide them special recognition. Determined to send these proposed changes to Vice President Larsen.

2019-08/2e Tuition Policy

2019-08/2f Additional Policy Renewal

2019-08/2g Policy Renewal Calendar

VARGAS ALBA: Determined to work with Vice President Brown on the Public Transit Policy. Considered that the renewal of the Tuition Policy will be relatively short.

TSE: Inquired into whether the Committee intends to complete the renewal of the Mandatory Non Instructional Fee and Scholarships and Bursaries Policies in September and, subsequently, begin the Tuition, Public Transit, Sexual Violence, Student Spaces, and Aboriginal Policies in October.

VARGAS ALBA: Responded in the affirmative. Determined to cancel the meeting occurring in the Fall Reading Week.

2019-08/3 **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

2019-08/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2019-08/4a Policy Committee Minutes (PC-2019-07-M) - Tuesday, August 20, 2019.

Not available as the meeting lacked a quorum, did not require/request minutes to be taken and was informal.

2019-08/4b Policy Committee Minutes (PC-2019-06-M) - Tuesday, August 6, 2019.

See PC-2019-08.01.

2019-08/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

VARGAS ALBA: Adjourned the meeting at 5:57pm.

2019-08/5a **Next Meeting:** N/A.

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS

MOTION	VOTES
BROWN/KIDD MOVED to approve the agenda.	CARRIED

BROWN/ISAAC MOVED to approve the minutes of PC-2019-06-M.	CARRIED
TSE/BROWN MOVED to approve the Mandatory Non Instructional Fee Policy for Second Reading at Students' Council.	CARRIED
VARGAS ALBA/KIDD MOVED to approve the Scholarships and Bursaries Policy for Second Reading at Students' Council.	CARRIED