University of Alberta Students' Union

A G E N D A Late Additions

Policy Committee

Date: May 28, 2013 Time: 6:00PM Location: SUB 6-06

1. Approval of the Agenda

2. Approval of the Minutes

(No minutes to discuss/approve)

3. Chair's Announcements

- a. Welcome!
- b. Transparency and accountability

4. Presentations

A basic introduction of each executive's goals for the year

- a. VP Student Life
- b. VP Academics
- c. VP External

5. Executive Committee Reports

Written/Oral Reports

- a. VP Student Life
- b. VP Academics
- c. VP External

6. Question Period

7. Old Business

a. Amendments to the Policy Committee's Standing Orders
 Review and discussion of PC Standing Orders, discuss changes if any, and propose alternatives/changes

(See attached document for PC Standing Orders)

8. New Business

- a. (PAD) Policy Authority Delegation: Dividing political policies between Execs Short discussion on the PAD process and division of political policies
- b. Setting goals for the year

(Please be prepared to discuss your goals for the year, and establish goals as a committee)

c. President Kusmu: motion to amend the Fall Reading Week (FRW) political policy in first reading

(See attached document for background)

9. Discussion

(If you have an item to discuss, please be prepared to open discussion and bring it to the table)

a. Scheduling: Agendas and Exec Reports

10. Confirmation of Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is scheduled for June 11th 2013 at 6:00 pm (Please be prepared to confirm your schedule and/or provide justification for amending this time/date)

Happy GovCamp!

ATTACHMENTS:

_____/___ move that, upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students' Council adopt amend the Fall Reading Week Policy in first reading based on the following principles:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate through University Governance for the creation of a Fall Reading Week.

Expires April 30th, 2015

VI. FALL READING WEEK

WHEREAS student mental health is a growing concern in the post-secondary education system;

WHEREAS a Fall Reading Week will create and opportunity to provide academic, wellness and social programming;

WHEREAS the benefits of a fall break will optimized by providing students with a full week off from classes; and

WHEREAS a fall reading week that coincides with Remembrance Day holiday ispreferable given the constraints on the academic schedule.

WHEREAS the academic schedule will permit a four-calendar day study break at the end of the Fall term in the vast majority of academic years.1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union will advocate through University Governance for the creation of a Fall Reading Week-such that:

- 1.A full week without instruction will take place concurrent with the—Remembrance Day holiday;
- 2.Instruction in the Fall Term will commence, when possible, on the Tuesday—following Labour Day; and-
- 3. The study break at the end of each of Fall Term, excluding consolidated—examinations, will be reduced from four to three calendar days...

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Rationale for change:

-This policy was initially created to provide clarity and direction for the SU Executive on which scenario to choose for advocating to the University. Much time was being spent considering which option may be most favourable for students, so a political policy effectively ensured only one option was pursued.

Policy Agenda – May 28, 2013

-Since its initial adoption, two amendments have already been required to adapt to feedback and sensitivity from members of the University community.

-At this point, the Executive prefers a more collaborative, flexible approach to Fall Reading Week advocacy. This will facilitate more open conversations with the University, particularly the Provost's Office and Deans, in the hopes that a solution will be arrived at for implementation in Fall, 2014.