

STUDENT GROUP COMMITTEE

Friday, November 12, 2021

12:00 PM

SUB 6-06 / Google Meet

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
Christopher Beasley		N
Abner Monterio, Chair		Y
Daniela Carbajal		Y
Talia Dixon		Y
Caitlin Mcleod		Y
Blaine O'Toole		N
Selen Erkut		Y
Asyah Saif		Y
Aadhavya Sivakumaran		Y
Bin Ge Yang		Y
Jacqueline Yang		Y
Jonathon Olfert		N/A
Eric Kother		N/A
Courtney Graham		N/A

MINUTES (SGC 2021-06)

2021-06/1 INTRODUCTION

2021-06/1a Call to Order

MONTEIRO CALLED the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M.

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2021-06/1b Approval of Minutes

- [2021-05-M](#)
- [2021-04-M](#)

DIXON/J YANG MOVE TO approve the minutes.
CARRIED.

2021-06/1c Approval of Agenda

DIXON/SIVAKUMARAN MOVE TO approve the agenda.
CARRIED.

2021-06/1d Chair's Business

2021-06/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

2021-06/3 COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2021-06/3a Decision on Pro-Life Student Group Submission

Caitlyn McLeod
Jon Olfert
Asyah Saif
Selen Erkut

MONTEIRO: Jonathon Olfert has researched the issue of the Pro-Life Group and will be updating the committee today about what has been found. Information items are linked to the agenda.

OLFERT: Has previously worked as the Policy Analyst at the UCSU. States how certain universities, like the UCSU, Simon Fraser and the University of Ottawa, have behaved in regards to policies towards the regulation of student groups.

The UCSU had no policies restricting student groups, so long as they did not heckle, whereas Simon Fraser and the University of Ottawa made it a policy to not support any Pro-Life student groups.

In comparison, Western University sent around a public notice that, when a Pro-Life group was hosting events and utilizing public spaces to show triggering images, to give students the opportunity to avoid seeing such things.

The examples provide the committee with ideas for how to move forward.

MONTEIRO: Asks McLeod what the Dean of Students' stance is in regards to the recognition of a Pro-Life group at the U of A.

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MCLEOD: The Dean of Students will recognize the group. There is no legislation that prevents the group from being a student group and, according to legislation, the formation of their group should not be restricted.

MONTEIRO: Legislation states that to exist as a student group, there must be a minimum of 10 members. The proposal for the Pro-Life group states that there is only member currently.

SAIF: To propose becoming a student group, 10 members is not needed. Once a proposal has received approval, then the committee must have 10 members in order to be recognized.

Clarifies that the committee is not choosing if the Pro-Life Group should be recognized by the university, as that falls under the DoS, but is meeting to determine if the Pro-Life group will be recognized by the SU.

MONTEIRO: Before moving into discussion, Erkut wanted to review the concerning language used in the Pro-Life proposal and evaluate it.

ERKUT: Whenever a student group submits a proposal and then receives recognition, an advising appointment is offered to the individual who submitted the proposal. The advising appointment includes the logistics of operation, constitution writing, event planning and advertisement.

Recommends that the Pro-Life group, based on the language used, should receive an advising appointment and be cautioned about the potential pitfalls regarding their use of language and their potential direction forward.

DIXON: Questions if the committee is recommending to Student Group whether or not the Pro-Life group should be approved or if the committee is actually choosing to approve the Pro-Life group. Based on policy legislation, there is no reason that the group can't exist, so what is the point of discussion?

SAIF: The committee met to determine SU recognition of the Pro-Life group. SU recognition gives a student group funding and space booking.

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CARBAJAL: After looking through the solicitation policy, it appears unclear whether or not solicitation is allowed by student groups.

KOTHER: Solicitation, as defined in legislation, means that student groups can approach folks, discuss their ideas and talk to students around campus but they cannot harass them in any way.

MCLEOD: Clarifies that, if a student group is tabling on campus that group can make announcements and be loud, but cannot call out individual students.

MONTEIRO: Questions what materials the SU receives when a student group requests to table.

MCLEOD: The SU receives no materials, only Student Group Services does.

CARBAJAL: The Pro-Life group suggests, in their application, that they would like to go up to students and talk to them about their group while tabling. This is concerning behaviour.

MONTEIRO: That would be an that issue would fall under the Code of Student Behaviour.

MONTEIRO/SIVAKUMARAN MOVE TO go in camera.
CARRIED.

J YANG/SIVAKUMARAN MOVE TO ex-camera.
CARRIED.

J YANG/SIVAKUMARAN MOVE TO table indefinitely the decision to give SU Recognition to the Pro-Life Group.
CARRIED.

MONTERIO MOTIONS TO adjourn the meeting.
SIVAKUMARAN/J YANG MOVE TO adjourn the meeting.
CARRIED

2021-06/4 **INFORMATION ITEMS**

2021-06/4a [Pro-Life - New Group Submission Form](#)

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2021-06/4b [Pro-Life Groups on Campuses - Lit. Review](#)

2021-06/4c [University Policies about Student Groups, Canvassing, and Solicitation](#)

2021-06/5 **ADJOURNMENT**

MONTEIRO adjourns the meeting at 1:10 P.M.

2021-06/5a **Next Meeting:** Friday, November 26, 2021 @ 12-1 PM