



University of Alberta Students' Union

**POLICY
COMMITTEE**

July 27, 2023

6:00 P.M.

SUB/[Zoom](#)

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in amiskwacîswâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųłíné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Pedro Almeida		Y
Chris Beasley		Y
Michael Griffiths		Y
Adrian Lam		Y
Precious Majekodunmi (Chair)		Y
Mason Pich		Y
Nathan Thiessen		N
Abdul Abbasi		N
Courtney Graham		N/A

Aseel Atia		N/A
Jetro Dano		N/A

MINUTES (PC-2023-05-M)

2023-05/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-05/1a Call to Order

MAJEKODUNMI called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM

2023-05/1b Approval of Agenda

BEASLEY/PICH MOVE TO approve the agenda
CARRIED

2023-05/1c Approval of Minutes

PICH/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve the minutes
CARRIED

2023-05/1d Chair’s Business

- Review of newly created policy committee work plan and deadlines

MAJEKODUNMI: Discusses what is new on the committee work plan and assignment deadlines. Mentions that the plan is based on the four stages of creating a policy.

- Stage 1:** draft of first principles to be presented to Policy Committee
- Stage 2:** first principles (**facts**) document to be presented to Student Council
- Stage 3:** draft of second principles to be presented to Policy Committee
- Stage 4:** second principles (**facts + resolutions**) to be presented to Student Council

July - November Policies:

- Student Spaces & Deferred Maintenance** - PICH/GRIFFITHS
- Quality Instruction** (with Assessment and Grading) - THIESSEN/ALMEIDA
- Student Financial Aid and Scholarships**
(with Scholarships and Bursaries) - ABBASI/ALMEIDA
- Mental Health** - LAM/BEASLEY

Deadlines:

- 1 First draft - August 10
- 2 First principles- August 24
- 3 Second draft- October 4
- 4 Second principle- October 19

BEASLEY: Mentions they want to bring the Mental Health Policy to ARCC for consultation on facts. Adds LAM will also be at the ASA exec meeting for consultations on facts for the Mental Health Policy.

2023-05/2

QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

Committee discusses policy progress and updates.

Student Space Policy and Deferred Maintenance Policy

GRIFFITHS: Mentions updates and progress on Student Space Policy and Deferred Maintenance Policy. Mentions that the first principles being drafted include changes happening on campus: student enrollment growth & space optimization. Sections 5, 8 & 10 were discussed as well.

Quality Instruction Policy

ALMEIDA: Mentions updates and progress on consolidating Quality instruction & assessment and Grading Policies. Adds that the updated name will be Quality Academics.

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy

ALMEIDA: Mentions that the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy is in its early stage of updating. Mentions consolidating the policy with the Scholarships & Bursaries Policy

Mental Health Policy

BEASLEY: Mentions updates and progress on the Mental Health Policy. Adds that LAM has started working on its stats and facts and that they are looking to include ARCC, COFA, ASA, ISA, and Campus Saint John for consultation and are looking to have a 2-week extension to accommodate the time needed for the consultation

GRAHAM: Mentions how the Policy Committee has done consultations in the past

MAJEKODUNMI: Asks GRAHAM if members can conduct consultations even after the second draft

GRAHAM: States that consultations can still be conducted at any point until after second principles are approved

MAJEKODUNMI: Mentions the Mental Health Policy facts can be completed by the first draft deadline and, if needed, can extend its first principles deadline by 2 weeks

2023-05/3

NEW BUSINESS

Merging of policies

MAJEKODUNMI: Asks the committee's thoughts about combining/consolidating the policies as mentioned above

GRIFFITHS: Mentions that they are okay with the thought of consolidating the suggested policies

2023-05/4

WRAP-UP

Action Items / To-Do List

- Reading assigned policies

Next Scheduled Meeting

- August 10, 2023

Adjournment

- Closing Attendance

MAJEKODUNMI adjourned the meeting at 6:50 PM