

# STUDENTS' COUNCIL LATE ADDITIONS

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Tuesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
ETLC 1-008

## LATE ADDITIONS (SC 2013-06)

2013-06/1 SPEAKER'S BUSINESS

2013-06/2 PRESENTATIONS

2013-06/3 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

2013-06/4 BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

2013-06/5 QUESTION PERIOD

2013-06/5a To William Lau, VP Student Life from Councillor Speakman

I was reading your report and I'd like to know your opinion about ISS. What are some pros and cons of the ISS not being a Students' Union service? Would you like to see international students brought under the SU umbrella? What barriers exist to such an integration?

2013-06/5b To Josh Le, VP Operations and Finance from Councillor Speakman

I have some questions about the SUB food court and renovations. What contractual obligations are being included for the new and existing food court vendors moving towards a more sustainable SUB? Can you speak to how the Ethical business partners operating policy and Food political policy are being followed, in the same context?

2013-06/6 BOARD AND COMMITTEE BUSINESS

2013-06/7 GENERAL ORDERS

2013-06/8 INFORMATION ITEMS

2013-06/8g Policy Committee Summary Report to Council

Please see document SC 13-06.01

2013-06/8h Adam Woods, VP External resignation from the Bylaw Committee

Please see document SC 13-06.02

2013-06/8i Brent Kelly, BoG Rep- Report

Please see document SC 13-06.03



## POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY REPORT TO COUNCIL

Date: July 9, 2013

Time: 6:09 pm

2013 – 2014 MEETING # 5

### Motions

1.	<b>Lau/Chelen</b> move to <b>approve</b> the agenda	<i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/0
2.	<b>Woods/Hanwell</b> move to <b>approve</b> the minutes	<i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/0
3.	<b>Chelen/Redman</b> moves that, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, Students' Council renew the Quality Instruction Policy in first reading based on the following principles: (see attached)	<i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/0
4.	<b>Redman/Hanwell</b> move to <b>adjourn</b> the meeting at 7:13	<i>CARRIED</i> 7/0/0

Chelen moves that, upon the recommendation of Policy Committee, Students' Council renew the Quality Instruction Policy in first reading based on the following principles:

1. That instruction refers to the teaching and learning involving instructors
2. That the state of technology and interdisciplinarity don't relate to the objectives of the policy
3. That the SU should advocate for more mandatory and improved instructor professional development activities, especially those focused on communication
4. That the SU should advocate for mid-semester formative feedback opportunities
5. That an effective teaching evaluation mechanism is psychometrically valid and has available results

## I. QUALITY INSTRUCTION

WHEREAS instructional quality is one of the most decisive factors in the quality of undergraduate education;

WHEREAS outstanding undergraduate instruction reflects positively on every aspect of the University;

WHEREAS excellence in teaching requires effective communication and interaction between and among students and instructors;

WHEREAS student evaluation of teaching provides students with a voice in their learning environment and can help instructors improve their teaching;

WHEREAS excellence in undergraduate instruction promotes continuing educational endeavours by undergraduate students into higher levels of study;

WHEREAS initiatives designed to improve teaching make positive contributions to common ~~pedagogical practice~~ teaching and learning practice as well as legislation relating to the governance of teaching and learning;

~~WHEREAS interdisciplinary exploration and advances in technology influence the quality of education;~~

WHEREAS development of a culture that promotes excellence in teaching requires funding, attention and innovation on the part of the University;

~~BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union actively supports and facilitates programs that seek to improve pedagogical technique for professors and instructional quality for undergraduates;~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union fosters conditions that promote the importance of teaching at an institutional level; and~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union encourages the development of an effective student teaching evaluation mechanism.~~

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates for more activities that enhance the instructional quality for undergraduates and increased teaching professional development activities, including those that enhance communication skills;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocates that instructors are required to present evidence of their current and past teaching professional development experience as part of their annual review; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union fosters conditions that promote the importance of teaching at an institutional level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocate for increased communication between students and professors through informal mid-semester feedback; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students' Union advocate for a more effective student teaching evaluation mechanism and whose results are psychometrically valid and are made readily available for students

Students' Council,

I regretfully announce that I am resigning from the Bylaw committee. While I have always loved being a member of and participating in Bylaw, with the recent addition of the Post Secondary Learning Act Task-force to my evening commitments, I no longer have the time to be a contributing member of the committee. The Task-Force must be as flexible as possible so that it can complete its business by the end of the summer. I thank you for your understanding. Please let me know if you have any questions

Sincerely,

Adam Woods

July 16th, 2013

**To:** Students' Council

**Re:** Report to Council

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Hey Council,

Before I proceed with my report, I would like to acknowledge that our university and our Students' Union are on Indigenous land. Specifically: Cree, Saulteaux, Metis, Blackfoot, and Nakota Siou. They are faculty, staff, students, family, and friends, and they are still here. I acknowledge that we meet on treaty 6 territory. That treaty governs the relationship between first-nations and non-first nations citizens. I am thankful for this opportunity for us to meet on this land today. This statement will be included at the front of my report to council until either the time that my term ends, or Council moves to makes a similar statement available for public viewing.

Not too much to report! Meetings of the Board will not resume until the fall semester, so it's pretty quiet on the BoG front from my perspective.

There is one development of interest, however. Just today we got a letter from the Deputy Minister of Enterprise and Advanced Education indicating that the *Alberta Public Agencies Governance Act* had been proclaimed. Apparently this Act is in accordance with the Public Agencies Governance Framework adopted in 2008.

I haven't had a good chance to examine the *Act*, but I imagine its purpose is to provide better oversight and damage-control for public boards; this has been a difficult spot for the government lately. You can check out the *Act* here: <http://www.qp.alberta.ca/documents/Acts/A31P5.pdf>.

In Solidarity,

**Brent Kelly**

Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative 2013-2014 | University of Alberta Students' Union

**P:** (780) 999-8867 | **F:** (780) 492-4643 | **E:** [bog@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:bog@su.ualberta.ca)