



University of Alberta Students' Union

## POLICY COMMITTEE

**July 13, 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                |       | N       |
| Michael Griffiths            |       | Y       |
| Adrian Lam                   |       | Y       |
| Precious Majekodunmi (Chair) |       | Y       |
| Mason Pich                   |       | Y       |
| Nathan Thiessen              |       | Y       |
| Abdul Abbasi                 |       | N       |
|                              |       |         |
| Courtney Graham              |       | N/A     |

|            |  |     |
|------------|--|-----|
| Aseel Atia |  | N/A |
| Jetro Dano |  | N/A |

**MINUTES (PC-2023-04-M)**

**2023-04/1                    INTRODUCTION**

**2023-04/1a                 **Call to Order****

MAJEKODUNMI called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM

**2023-04/1b                 **Approval of Agenda****

**THIESSEN/LAM MOVE TO** approve the agenda  
CARRIED

**2023-04/1c                 **Approval of Minutes****

**PICH/THIESSEN MOVE TO** approve the minutes  
CARRIED

**2023-04/1d                 **Chair’s Business****

- Recap of the previous meeting
  - The strategy of pairing an executive with a councilor
  - Possibility of consolidating policies
  - Creation of basic tenants that outline what the SU stands for and should advocate for
- Review of Committee work plan and timelines
  - LAM/BEASLEY + committee help- Augustana Policy
  - THIESSEN/ALMEIDA- Quality Instructions Policy
  - PICH/GRIFFITHS or BEASLEY -Student Sace Policy
  - Deadlines:
    - August 1st- 1 principle
    - October 31- 2nd Principles

LAM: Mentions that they will start making the consultation draft for Augustana Policy

THIESSEN: Mentions that they are looking to combine the Quality Instructions Policy with the Assessment and Grading Policy

**2023-04/2                    QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD**

- Committee mandates

MAJEKODUNMI reads the committee mandate.

GRAHAM: Mentions how the Executive Committee report went by last year-masterly report/presentation every trimester

MAJEKODUNMI: Asks the Committee's thoughts about trimester reporting and presentation to Council

The Committee supports the trimester reporting and presentation to the Council.

ALMEIDA: Mentions that the execs will bring executive goals on August 1st. Asks if that report will count as the Committee's report/presentation

The Committee supports the August 1st report as the Committee's first-trimester report.

MAJEKODUNMI reads the Meetings Section of the Policy Committee Standing Orders.

LAM: Asks the Committee how it will go about changing the Committee's meeting schedule

GRAHAM: Mentions that changes to meeting times will be up to the consensus of the Committee and that there are no special motions needed for that matter

LAM: Asks the Committee if they can move a meeting that falls at the same time as an evening event around 5-10 PM in Augustana so that the Council can potentially join and socialize with the Augustana students as classes have not started yet.

GRAHAM: Suggests moving the committee meeting a week early because of time constraints. Will send out new lettuce meet for the Fall meeting schedules

MAJEKODUNMI: Suggests creating a lettuce meet for the Augustana event to see how many members are attending

- Reviewing working groups for policies

Augustana Campus - LAM/BEASLEY

Student Space- PICH/GRIFFITHS

Quality Instruction- THIESSEN/ALMEIDA

Academic Materials- ABBASI (tentative)/ALMEIDA

Deferred Maintenance- PICH/GRIFFITHS

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships- THEISSEN/ALMEIDA

Truth and Reconciliation Commission- MAJEKODUNMI/GRIFFITHS

Mental Health- LAM/GRIFFITHS

Basic Tenets/Statement of Principles- THIESSEN/MAJEKODUNMI

MAJEKODUNMI: Mentions that the committee can also not renew a policy.

Will need to go to the Policy Committee for a discussion

ALMEIDA: Mentions potential issues on overlapping timelines on working 2 different policies as assigned.

MAJEKODUNMI: Suggests August 1st deadline for 1st Principles for the First 3 policies and September 1st for the next 5 policies.

- Strategic Plan approval

GRAHAM: Gives an overview of how the Strategic Plan has been discussed in the previous Policy Committees.

GRIFFITHS: States that the Policy Committee will not handle the SU Strategic Plan. Adds that the committee should be leaning more toward the UASU Strategic Plan in terms of the policies that it covers

- Consultation framework template guideline for policies

MAJEKODUNMI: Mentions and reads the consultation framework made by the previous Policy Chair last year. Suggests assigning 2 members to create a consultation framework and additionally create a working group that will create a general consultation guideline as the basis for its future consultations

GRAHAM: Mentions that Governance can help out in terms of Admin tasks on this matter

THIESEN: Mentions utilizing existing resources to create this framework

ALMEIDA: Volunteers joining the working group

LAM: Expresses interest in joining the working group as well

**2023-04/3**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- New policies recommendations

ALMEIDA: Reiterates the consolidation of certain policies into one place. Adds potential combining of Students Space & Deferred Maintenance policies as well as Academic Materials & Open Education, Student Financial Aid and Scholarships & Scholarships and bursaries

MAJEKODUNMI: Asks the committee to review the policies and will send out a list of ALMEIDA consolidation suggestions.

GRIFFITHS: Mentions fitting some policies as subsections to the other similar policies.

- Basic Tenet review and work plan creation

MAJEKODUNMI: Asks the committee for suggestions on what they want to be included in the document

ALMEIDA: Mentions that they created the facts portion of the Quality Instructions & the Assessment and Grading policies while THIESEN consolidated the resolutions portion of the 2 policies over the weekend.

MAJEKODUNMI: Shares a document showing how the previous Policy committee has gone about policy updates

THIESEN: Asks GRAHAM if amendments to existing political policies needed to be approved by Council

GRAHAM: Mentions that significant amendments to the policy will have to go through the Students Council (1st & 2nd Principles)

**2023-04/4**

**WRAP-UP**

**Action Items / To-Do List**

- Reading assigned policies

**Next Scheduled Meeting**

- July 27, 2023

**Adjournment**

- Closing Attendance

MAJEKODUNMI adjourned the meeting at 7:03 PM