



University of Alberta Students' Union

POLICY COMMITTEE

August 10, 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, Dēnesųłíné (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		N
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-2023-06-M)

2023-06/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-06/1a **Call to Order**

MAJEKODUNMI called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

2023-06/1b **Approval of Agenda**

PICH/THIESSEN MOVE TO approve the agenda

CARRIED

2023-06/1c **Approval of Minutes**

PICH/LAM MOVE TO approve the minutes

CARRIED

2023-06/1d **Chair's Business**

- Consultation plan and process review
- Review of new deadline for First and Second Principles

MAJEKODUNMI: Mentions the Policy creation stages and new deadline schedules

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

First draft- Aug 24 (policy meeting)

First principle- Sep 7 (order papers deadline)

Second draft- Oct 18 (Policy meeting)

Second principle- Oct 26 (order papers deadline)

2023-06/2 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD

Student Space Policy and Deferred Maintenance First Draft and Consultation Plan.

PICH: Mentions updates on Student Space Policy and Deferred Maintenance Policy First Draft, including inconsistencies in the facts, condensing multiple clauses into one clause, and grammatical changes.

Adds that the consultation plan will focus on research and prioritize accessibility, gender-neutral washrooms, and diverse religious spaces for the first principles. For the Second Principle, stakeholders on campus will be asked about issues students face regarding areas. This will include meetings with ISU, ISA, ASA, AUFSJ, COFA, and CORA.

The committee approves the student Space Policy and Deferred Maintenance First Draft and Consultation Plan.

2023-06/3

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Quality Instruction Policy Consultation Plan.

ALMEIDA: Mentions updates on the Quality Instruction Policy and its Consultation Plan.

Adds that the plan consists of facts acquisition and going to COFA Advocacy and that the consultation pathway is relatively similar when it comes to resolutions once additional information is established

Adds that the consolidated policies on Quality Instruction and Assessment and grading will be renamed Quality Academics Policy

THIESEN: Mentions that the facts for this policy are not yet ready for approval

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships Policy Consultation Plan.

ALMEIDA: Mentions having trouble meeting with ABBASI due to personal concerns.

Adds that they were assigned to combine facts of the Student Financial Aid and Scholarships policy with the Scholarships and Bursaries policy.

States that the current plan is to follow a similar path to the Academics Policy, which is to bring the working document draft to COFA Advocacy

MAJEKODUNMI: Suggests consulting some professors regarding Assessment and Grading

ALMEIDA: Mentions concerns on consulting some professors regarding the policy but have considered this suggestion for the Resolutions

BEASLEY: Suggests consulting the Academic Staff Association instead

THIESSEN: Mentions concerns regarding consulting with the Academic Staff Association.

Mental Health Policy Consultation Plan.

BEASLEY: Mentions they will take the policy to ISA, ARCC, and ASA for facts and the Resolutions to COFA Advocacy. Asks the committee their thoughts on either going to ARCC or ISU for consultations

Committee agrees to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.

THIESSEN: Suggests prioritizing consultations with ISU as it is an organization built for and run by indigenous students on campus

BEASLEY: Mentions reaching out to both ARCC & ISU to get their thoughts regarding the policy consultations

Augustana Policy Consultation Plan.

LAM: Mentions there are several groups already identified for consultations, including Faculty Association executives, their Council as a whole, and the general student body where hosting a consultation event at Augustana is planned. Additionally, they will reach out to different groups, such as residents people living in residence and off-campus, and to have them come to this consultation event.

BEASLEY: Clarifies that this event could look like a meet and greet session and most likely be done after the facts stage and into the Resolutions stage

ALMEIDA: Mentions that the Council has a certain amount of money allotted to spend as the Council sees fit. Suggests for a member of the committee to come up with a proposal for the Council for allocation of funds for this project

PICH: Mentions rather than consulting the professors regarding Assessment and Grading, to go through UASU Awards instead- potentially looking at the nominations and looking at what motivated students to nominate them

ALMEIDA: Mentions privacy concerns with using the information on UASU Awards

MAJEKODUNMI: Mentions utilizing Students' Survey instead

ALMEIDA: Suggests going to COFA Advocacy with the current Quality Academics Policy for discussion and potentially coming up with a survey of how students feel about certain aspects of grading in a numerical sense.

MAJEKODUNMI: Suggests going forward with COFA and then students through Perks surveys for the Resolutions part. Adds that the Quality Academics Policy deadline has also been approved for extension.

2023-05/4

WRAP-UP

Action Items / To-Do List

- Reading assigned policies

Next Scheduled Meeting

- August 24, 2023

Adjournment

- Closing Attendance

MAJEKODUNMI adjourned the meeting at 7:35 PM