MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — 2022-2023 #48
January 12, 2023
1:05 PM

ATTENDANCE

Abner Monteiro  President
Christian Fotang  Vice President (External)
Gurleen Kaur  Vice President (Academic)
Julia Villoso  Vice President (Operations and Finance)
Joannie Fogue  Vice President (Student Life)
Marc Dumouchel  General Manager
Juliana du Pree  Director of Marketing and Communications
Jonathan Olfert  Director of Research and Advocacy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

FOTANG/FOGUE MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.
5/0/0 CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

FOGUE/FOTANG MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from January 9, 2023 as presented.
5/0/0 CARRIED

REPORTS

Reports tabled.
STUDENTS’ COUNCIL

● The new elections bylaws are approved. The implementation will be led by Marc and Abner and much of it will be by Courtney, including Docs.SU updates.
● The new nomination package will be going out soon.
● Execs will work with Bylaw Committee to reduce the number of Councilors and change the committee structure. The Executives will need to discuss implementation with committee chairs. Staff resources are being shifted to enable Courtney to take on implementation work.
● Marketing and Communications will have a role to play in informing the student body about the changes, and Abner will provide necessary details.

ACTION ITEMS

No items.

DISCUSSION PERIOD

Budget Principles

● VP OpsFi is looking to do a consultation period. The Executives discussed elements of last year's budget principles and whether they are still applicable for 2023-24. For example, the housing registry was previously listed and no longer exists.
● The Executives discussed resource allocation around student groups, Indigenous student priorities, sustainability, Council’s emergent priorities, etc.

Tuition Update

● The University has provided draft tuition proposals. As anticipated, domestic tuition for Fall 2023 will rise by 5.5%, as will remaining international program-based students. These total to a 29% increase since 2018. New international cohort students will see a 6.5% tuition increase.
● All of these increases are in line with the tentative proposals provided last semester, despite major intervening advocacy and extensive consultation.
● The University has also, per a request at COSA, provided a 2022-23 tuition consultation summary. The summary mentions the UASU’s various tuition-related asks, but does not show the changes that happened (e.g. the removal of the tuition instalment fee as the UASU requested).
● The Executives discussed advocacy options for Winter 2023 leading up to (presumable) approval in March. There may still be room to secure progress on late tuition rates/payments.
• The removal of the tuition instalment fee will save students roughly $1 million, but the University is not budging on anything else at this stage.
• One major area of focus is the University’s assumptions around student cost of living. The University has finally provided information on those baseline assumptions ($750/month for a student paying rent, $1600/month for a student paying rent, +$1600/month for a partner, +$500/month for a child), and comparable student survey data about actual cost of living will help challenge them. The University plans to reevaluate those baselines (the Moderate Standard of Living or MSOL) in Winter 2023. A UASU evidence-based assessment of the baselines may lead the University to reexamine student financial aid and the 15%/7.55% student aid set-asides from tuition, and may lead the provincial government to reexamine its own baselines for financial aid.