Date: July 18, 2011   Time: 6.08 pm

In Attendance:
Andrew Fehr (Chair)
Su Su Liang
Adam Woods
Avinash Karuvelil
Nikki Way
Emerson Csorba
Fareed Iskandar
Andy Cheema

Excused Absence:
NIL

Others in Attendance:
NIL

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by FEHR at 6.08pm.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA WAY moved that the July 18 agenda be approved amended. Seconded by WOODS
   Vote on motion 7/0/0.
   CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES YAMAGISHI amended minutes to exclude his and Cheema’s statement about Lister Centre management on page 2 of 3.
   LIANG moved that the July 4 minutes be approved as amended.
   The motion was seconded by CSORBA
   7/0/0.
   CARRIED.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS The next meeting will be on August 2 at 6 pm.

5. REVIEW OF NIL
ACTION ITEMS

6. OLD BUSINESS

Research Policy

CSORBA moved that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students’ Council approve Bill #3, that Students’ Council adopt the Political Policy, Research, in second reading based on the following principles:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union shall endeavor to ensure that the University views research and teaching as equally important constituent parts of the University;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union shall endeavor through all possible avenues, to ensure that research at the University of Alberta is appropriately contextualized within the larger framework of the institutions structure; and

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union advocates for more opportunities that allow undergraduate students to partake in research.

The motion was seconded by YAMAGISHI.

Vote on Motion 7/0/0. CARRIED.

Affordable Housing

LIANG expressed that one of the whereas clauses need to address underrepresented student groups. However, KARUVELIL pointed out that definitions of ‘underrepresented’ groups can be relative hence making it more difficult.

CSORBA highlighted that advocating for a specific group of people is not what the policy aims to achieve. Additionally, he pointed out that the Students’ Union main function is to represent all students.

YAMAGISHI moved that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students’ Council approve Bill #4, that Students’ Council adopt the Political Policy, Affordable Housing, in first reading based on the following principles:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union advocates that the Government of Alberta and the City of Edmonton remove their burden of municipal property taxes from residences;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union advocates that
the Government of Alberta provide a large-scale, one time infusion of capital funds to address deferred maintenance in existing residential facilities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the University of Alberta Students’ Union advocates that the Government of Alberta provide capital funds toward the development of additional student housing.

The motion was seconded by LIANG.

Vote on Motion 6/0/1. WOODS requested for his abstention to be noted. CARRIED.

7. NEW BUSINESS

International Students Policy

ISKANDAR expressed the need to be more specific in the matter of Students’ Union not supporting the board of governors on the increase of the international differential fee.

CSORBA moved that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students’ Council approve Bill #5, that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy, International Students, in first reading based on the following principles:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Students’ Union shall support accessible post-secondary education for international students at the University of Alberta; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Students’ Union shall advocate to the University to provide international students with the support and services needed to help them achieve success in the pursuit of a quality undergraduate experience.

The motion was seconded by ISKANDAR.

Vote on Motion 7/0/0. CARRIED.

8. DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION ITEMS

YAMAGISHI moved that upon the recommendation of the Policy Committee, Students’ Council approve Bill #6, that Students' Council adopt the Political Policy, Engagement, in first reading based on the following principles:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union shall encourage the University to actively foster campus community by investing in initiatives and opportunities that promote engagement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Students’ Union advocates that
the University identify and reward the contribution of students who actively strive to improve their campus and larger community.

The motion was seconded by KARUVELIL.

Vote on motion 7/0/0.
CARRIED.

Members of the policy committee discussed that the Students’ Union will lobby the government to remove book importation regulation which may reduce the prices of textbooks.

9. REPORTS

CSORBA gave a report about graduate attributes. He informed members of the policy committee that he will be contacting them with an overview and give a presentation of the same on council. He informed committee members that preparations for the symposium are ongoing. CSORBA also invited committee members to participate in the symposium. He also mentioned that he is in contact with the director of international student services, Doug Weir, about ways of improving academic international student services at the U of A.

YAMAGISHI informed members of the committee that he is planning on meeting with Chaka Zinyemba and Emerson Csorba on the possibility of international student association. He also declared Circus as the theme for the 2011 Week of Welcome. YAMAGISHI plans to collaborate with the office of sustainability in pursuit of sustainable initiatives in this year’s WOW. Additionally, he mentioned that there are ongoing discussions with UAI (University of Alberta International) about allocating more granting money to go to international students and about mandatory and non-instructional fees for the overall student population.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

Woods to Yamagishi: Do they have money for deferred maintenance?
Yamagishi: They did not commit to it but they probably do.
Way to Yamagishi: Are there any particular renovations being considered for HUB?
Yamagishi: Yes, expansion of the kitchen, washroom renovations and usage of the space by the second floor elevator.
Fehr to Csorba: When is the symposium?
Csorba: It has not been finalized yet but it is either going to be in November 17 – 18 or Nov 21 – 22.
Fehr to Csorba: Has the planning started?
Csorba: Planning has not started yet but invitations for a planning committee will be sent out this week.
Woods to Yamagishi: What is the progress on the PAW centre?
Yamagishi: There has been some conflict over deciding what the opening hours are going to be. There will be a meeting tomorrow (July 19) with GSA to make the final decision on the PAW centre hours.
Adam to Yamagishi: Can faculty associations own a fraction of the PAW centre?
Yamagishi: Yes, if they can pay for it.
Fehr to Yamagishi: Where will it be located?
Yamagishi: A presentation will be made to council in 2 months.

11. **NEXT MEETING**
   *August 2, 2011 at 6pm.*

12. **ADJOURNMENT**
   *KARUVELIL* moved that the meeting be adjourned.
The motion was seconded by *LIANG* 7/0/0.
*CARRIED.*
Meeting adjourned at *8.08 pm.*