



POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

2011 - 2012 # 07

Date: *Monday, August 22, 2011*

Time: *6:08 PM*

In Attendance:

Fehr (CHAIR),

Lepage-Fortin

Kusmu

Ferguson (proxy for Karuvelil)

Woods

Khinda

Yamagishi

Iskandar

Excused Absence:

Others in Attendance:

1. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by *FEHR* at 6:08 PM.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA WOODS moved that the August 2nd agenda be approved.
Seconded by ISKANDAR.

Vote on Motion 8/0/0.
CARRIED.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES ISKANDAR amended minutes...(3of5) section under “VPX ISKANDAR”, say “Policy and Strategy Conference” instead of “Political and Strategy Conference”.

FERGUSON amended minutes...(4of5 and 5of5) corrected the spelling of SUMAR

WOODS moved that the August 2 minutes be approved as ammended.
The motion was seconded by ISKANDAR.

Vote on motion 6/0/2.
CARRIED.

**4. CHAIR'S
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

KUSMU, the regular chair, is back.

5. PRESENTATIONS

**6. EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE
REPORTS**

To VPX – ISKANDAR

FERGUSON – I did mine online, will that also be happening during the enumeration process?

ISKANDAR – No it will not, oddly enough.

KHINDA – What's the progress with the GOTV job position?

ISKANDAR – Applications are due tomorrow and we'll interview applicants next week. We're going to have somebody hired by September 1.

KUSMU – What were the priorities discussed when you met up with Adi Rao and Dima Utgoff?

ISKANDAR – We talked a lot about enumeration and the whole dilemma between door-knocking and having the booth—mainly about logistitics and timeline.

To VPSL – YAMAGISHI

KHINDA – Where is

YAMAGISHI – University of Alberta International (UAI) proposed a grant for international student group initiatives.

KUSMU – What's our relation with Newton Place?

YAMAGISHI – I chair the RHA committee and the University owns that building. There is a Newton Place residence association, also.

LEPAGE FORTIN – What's the situation with the Summer/Spring U-pass?

YAMAGISHI – It looks like students will have to pay for a both a summer and spring U-pass, however, it will be cheaper for students to purchase this than buying regular city passes for one semester.

KUSMU – Where is the SUSTAIN SU bike library going to be placed?

YAMAGISHI – In the new PAW Centre building—it's going to much larger than our current space.

LEPAGE FORTIN – What's happening with the GO Centre?

YAMAGISHI – GO Centre is an athletics facility at South.

KUSMU – What were the priorities discussed when you met up with Adi Rao and Dima Utgoff?

YAMAGISHI – Main thing was RHA Council Meeting and trying to figure out ways to get a better attendance since we barely had quorum—but a lot of people are away during the summer. I asked once again about the “dry floors” but not much progress is happening with Resident Student Services and I'm pretty disappointed about that. We also discussed about a “restorative justice” system. Also, there will be a big Block Party when the

folks are moving in. Also, RHA has a lot of money but now the issue is just getting their name out.

WOODS – So what's your approach on this whole "dry floor" policy?

YAMAGISHI – I'm just making sure things are working out fairly between Resident Student Services and the LHSAs, I don't want to meddle in too much with the situation. However, I want to make sure that all is fair and progress is made.

KUSMU – Did you talk about any kind of "food policy" with Adi and Dima?

YAMAGISHI – Right now there is also a foods committee chaired by a student.

FEHR – How close are you coming to reaching a deal with Spruce Grove, Stony Plain, and Fort Saskatchewan U-Pass deal?

YAMAGISHI – We have a long way to go. They think that it'll be a big loss to them, when it actually won't. It'll be a miracle if I could make a deal by this year.

7. QUESTION PERIOD

8. OLD BUSINESS

Preparing the "Academic Materials Policy" in First Reading

LEPAGE FORTIN – Under note 1, which organization are we talking about?

ISKANDAR – AGC, Alberta Graduate Council.

LEPAGE FORTIN – I don't see why we should have the expiration coming up this year?

ISKANDAR – A lot of things will most likely change during my term on the issue.

YAMAGISHI – Another reason why we're having the policy expire early is because it forces the policy committee to renew the policy since things will have surely changed by then.

FERGUSON – How about we change "pressure" to "encourage" in point 1.

LEPAGE FORTIN – I'm just concerned that the Students' Union will be without an "Academic Materials" policy if it expires this early—since next year's council won't have time to touch on it right away.

FEHR – We'll be the ones renewing the policy if its expiring that early though, so it should be alright.

ISKANDAR – I'm comfortable to pass this policy tonight in first reading (with it expiring in 2012, not 2013). However, I feel like sometime on this policy might be needed. By the way, I also consulted with CSORBA today about this policy. But both of us still feel the same way about pushing forward with this policy in first reading tonight.

KHINDA – Can we reword point 5 (view track changes)?

ISKANDAR – Access Copyright gives us a lot of leeway on printing, so we didn't have to talk to the publishers if we wanted to print off something. However, this year things will be different. My concern with this policy

right now is how will the SU react to a lack of leeway in print course packs?

FEHR – It looks like the general consensus of the committee is that we will work on this policy a little more without passing it in first reading tonight.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on the “Food Policy” in First Reading

KUSMU – I’d like to see the inclusion of “Accessibility” in the Food Policy. For example, we advocated for a community kitchen in the PAW Centre and more microwaves; why not further advocate this?

LEPAGE FORTIN – I like the policy, but it is all over the place. I also think it is important to have an “objective” tone in the policy (view changes in document).

ISKANDAR – I feel like the “education” part of this policy is hard to attain. I’m concerned with the last two BIFRT clauses. We need to further clarify what do we mean by education.

WOODS – I disagree.

KHINDA – We can incorporate a whole bunch of ideas to educate, such as, the research symposium and the farmer’s market.

ISKANDAR – But it will be hard to get the University of Alberta to start providing some of this “education”.

FERGUSON – What do we mean by “fair trade” (certification?) and “local” (within a 100 miles of the UofA?)? We need further clarification.

YAMAGISHI – When I’m making reference to the University, I’m also referencing to Aramark.

KUSMU – Under Accessibility, we should also discuss about encouraging the University to invest more in water fountains and revamp the ones they currently have (especially in Tory).

LEPAGE FORTIN – Maybe we should have a Whereas clause for the 2nd last BIFRT clause, I feel like it needs further clarification.

FEHR – At this point, I don’t think we’ll have this ready for first reading tonight. But what I’m seeing is that we’ll need more clarification for the last BIFRT, we’ll need to do more research, but I think the general consensus is in favor of this. I also like the idea of “Local, organic, and fair trade” in the last clause as well. Also, for the second last BIFRT, it looks like there is some contention on how the University will provide this education. For the clause before that, is it realistic that all the nutrition information has to be provided?

YAMAGISHI – I like how LEPAGE FORTIN brought up the idea of us “advocating to ourselves”, however, I consulted some other 2-900 folks and they really spoke against this idea of “advocating to ourselves” and how we should keep our Political Policies external.

FERGUSON – I disagree with LEPAGE FORTIN on the 2nd last BIFRT clause, I think it’s fine.

YAMAGISHI – Also, Aramark really likes the local food thing because they are able to mark-up the price on local food—it makes them look good and it makes them more money.

10. DISCUSSION

FEHR – Our Fall Semester schedule is either on off-Council Tuesdays @ 5PM-7PM (however, we'll have to ask KARUVELIL if it works out with his schedule) or on-Council Thursday @ 6PM-8PM (however, we'll have to ask CSORBA if it works out with his schedule). Our contingency (in case our Fall Schedule is still in the works by early September) meeting Tuesday at 5PM on September 6, 2011.

FEHR – Since Policy did a lot of work renewing policies this summer, I suggest that people start thinking of new policies (e.g. Chaka is working on that smoking policy) and start familiarizing themselves with PAD (Policy Accountability Delegation) so we can start questioning the Executive and make sure that they're accountability.

ISKANDAR – I plan on bringing up a Student Financial Aid/Student Loans Policy (I want to discuss the removal of parental contributions from Student Loan Applications).

YAMAGISHI – We should also think about standardizing the language in all of the policies.

FEHR – We should also formulate a “How to Chair Policy” Guidebook.

11. NEXT MEETING

Tentative. Contingency (in case our Fall Schedule is still in the works by early September) meeting Tuesday at 5PM on September 6, 2011.

12. ADJOURNMENT

WOODS/FERGUSON moved that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

8/0/0

CARRIED