

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University August 16, 2017 at 6:00pm in room #7-218

In Attendance:

Stephanie Nedoshytko, President
Robbie Lepp, Vice President Academic
Parvin Sedighi, Vice President External
Emma Patterson, Vice President Operations
Jason Garcia, Vice President Student Life
Andrew Bieman, Councilor
Aubrianna Broughton-Snow, Councilor
Andrew Desaulniers, Councilor
Rachelle Drummond, Councilor
Jacob Marler, Councilor
Duncan McManus, Councilor
Jared Millions, Councilor

Arva Nadeem, Councilor Mark Romero, Councilor Luis Ruiz, Councilor Megan Sell, Councilor Tansy Spyker, Councilor Quyen Tang, Councilor Micheal Ziegler, Councilor

SAMU Officials and Council Support: Timothy Jobs, Chair Alan Honey, Governance Advisor Samantha Hay, Governance Assistant

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm.

# 1. Treaty 6 Land Recognition

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University is taking place on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 6 region in Central Alberta.

The Students' Association of MacEwan University is situated in the centre of what we call the city of Edmonton, which is called Amiskwaciy Waskahikan or Beaver Hill House in Nehiyawewin (Cree). This is the traditional home of the Nehiyaw (Cree) and Michif (Métis), and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe (Saulteaux), Siksika (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux (Stoney) and other nations.

2. Approvals

2.1 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR AUGUST 16, 2017

SPYKER/MARLER

**CARRIED** 

2.2 MOTION

**TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 19, 2017** 

RUIZ/BROUGHTON-SNOW

**CARRIED** 

- 3. Presentations
- 4. For Information
  - 4.1. Reports
  - 4.1.1.President
  - 4.1.2. Vice President Academic
  - 4.1.3. Vice President External
  - 4.1.4. Vice President Operations & Finance
  - 4.1.5. Vice President Student Life
  - 4.1.6. General Manager
  - 4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of July 5, 12, 19, 26, and August 3, 2017 provided.

#### 5. Question Period

#### 5.1. Written Questions

Ziegler - For President: What was discussed during the Premier's breakfast?

Pres - At the Premier's breakfast, the conversations with most MLAs were generally points of brief introductions given the volume of people at the event. For some, like a conversation between the VPE and Member Cortes-Vargas, a past meeting was discussed and the potential of another meeting for the future. Conversations with other individuals were sparked from past interactions in my past job and my involvement in other community organizations, letting them know that I now work for SAMU and the goals our Executive has for the future. Overall, it was good exposure to bring our full Executive to the event for a short period of time.

Ziegler - For the VPE, can you elaborate on the details of the Work plans for both the Trades and Tech and Grad Committees and the Federal Policy Committee?

Vpe - The work plans for all committees included review of CASA policies, as it is CASA practice to review its policies every three years. For the Federal Policy Committee, additional work will be done on a policy on substance use, as well as a report on CASA's role in advocating for LGBTQ2+ post-secondary students. Further, the FPC will work on a report outlining the pros and cons of making CASA's policies public, as that is not currently the case. The Graduate Committee will focus its work on the tri-council agencies, with an eye to its funding and reporting mechanisms. The Trades and Tech Committee will work on a policy concerning applied research at polytechnics, as well as researching non-financial barriers to accessing an education in the trades. These are highlights from each work plan, as some are quite extensive. If any council member would like to see these documents in full, please reach out to me via email and I would be happy to share them with you.

Ziegler - For VPE, what are the priorities for both the Alberta Students' Executive Council and the Alberta Graduate Provincial Advocacy Council?

Vpe - AB-GPAC will be focusing on labour rights, mental health, and funding for grad students; they haven't finalized their priorities yet, so this is what they had to share. ASEC has not yet finalized their priorities either, but they hope to work on mental health, co-op/internship placements, and open educational resources, among other things.

Ziegler - For VPE, can you provide some specific highlights from MP Jeneroux's answers to your questions?

Vpe - We did not have specific questions for MP Jeneroux. If you're referring to the asks that were mentioned in my report, that refers to the requests we had for Mr. Jeneroux. We discussed the Canada Student Loans Program (CSLP), Campus Indigenization, and Student Employment. He was very responsive to our ask on student employment and following the lead of Mitacs, a not-for-profit that connects students with relevant work experience, and he was also receptive to our ask of increasing the CSLP repayment threshold to \$30k a year, from its current \$25k.

Ziegler - For VPA, how successful was the "Don't be textbook broke" campaign? What is the desired outcome of the "Be Book Smart" campaign, and when will it take place?

Vpa - A campaign such as this is successful if people are informed about what the campaign is trying to inform. As such, it is hard to measure it fully. Of the 500 bookmarks that were printed last year, all but a dozen were given out. According to the library, their short-term textbook borrowing service gained headway as more students used the service throughout the year. The desired outcome of this year is that even more students become aware of the options available to them outside of spending a continually increasing amount on textbooks. The campaign is scheduled to run from September 1-22.

Ziegler - For EC, when Council discussed the naming of a CFAC space, a question was brought forward about the name of the space, it went sort of like "will the space be essentially have a plaque that says 'SAMU [insert space type here]"? the answer was that in essence it would be. However, the EC minutes for the July 5, 2017 meeting topic 4 shows that the intention is to name it after a person. Why a person, and has the EC come to a decision on the person that they'd like to name the space after?

Pres - We had discussed the name of the space at length at an EC meeting once the space was decided. We wanted to ensure that it wasn't something that would confuse students, especially after the completion of the new building. We discussed back and forth that an atrium named "Students' Association Atrium" may confuse students if an event was held there, and they may end up looking for the event in the new SAMU Building. After referring to a past naming of the Gray Gallery, we decided that we would like a similar concept set up. The Grey Gallery is named after Dorothy Gray, but also has the SAMU logo in the area. As a part of our efforts for continued campus indigenization, we reached out to Kihew Waciston for suggestions. We together agreed on naming the space "Elder Jerry Wood Atrium." Jerry Wood is a former Elder on campus who had a close connection to the students. He unfortunately passed away last year and this opportunity will be a good way to recognize his commitment to student life on campus. If you'd like to better visualize how the naming might look, the plaque in the Gray Gallery is a good example. We will also be recognized on the main donor wall/display with a plaque with our name in Allard Hall.

Tang - For VPA: Is there any difference between "Be Book Smart" this year and previous years?

Vpa - Yes there is. I expect you want to know what the differences are. Last year this campaign was run in the library at specific times and only reached people who were waiting in line for their ID cards. This year, we are moving away from that. By brightening up the materials, I hope to catch the eyes of people who are waiting in line for their ID, UPass, coffee, etc. with sandwich boards. Posters will be displayed on screens across campus. I am working with the mStore to see about placing the informative bookmarks in with the receipts students get when purchasing anything for the first couple of weeks, or until the bookmarks run out. Even when the bookmarks run out, the posters, sandwich boards, and screens will continue to direct students to SAMU's webpage where they can find the same information with slightly more detail.

## 5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: Campus Indigenisation; Be Book Smart campaign; SAMU building construction; SAM Center space-Allard Hall; Fall reading break

- 6. In Camera Period
- 7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day
  - 7.1. Annual Report

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

**VPO/BIEMAN** 

**CARRIED** 

# 7.2. Students' Council meeting

MOTION TO HAVE BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE ADD THE FOLLOWING ITEM TO SAMU POLICY "STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETINGS" AS PART OF ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

MAIN ITEM: "A VOTING MEMBER OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE DEBATE OF A MOTION IN QUESTION IN ORDER TO VOTE ON SAID MOTION:" SUB ITEM ONE: "IF THE CONTENTS OF THE MOTION IN QUESTION IS CONFIDENTIAL IN NATURE A VOTING MEMBER MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE DEBATE THAT WOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE IN CAMERA PERIOD:"

SUB ITEM TWO: "IF A VOTING MEMBER IS NOT PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF A DEBATE ON A MOTION IN QUESTION, THAT MEMBER MUST ABSTAIN;."

# ZIEGLER/NADEEM

### **MOTION**

TO AMEND TO READ "TO RECOMMEND TO HAVE BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE ADD THE FOLLOWING ITEM TO SAMU POLICY "STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETINGS" AS PART OF ANY PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

MAIN ITEM: "A VOTING MEMBER OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE DEBATE OF A MOTION IN QUESTION IN ORDER TO VOTE ON SAID MOTION:"

SUB ITEM ONE: "IF THE CONTENTS OF THE MOTION IN QUESTION IS CONFIDENTIAL IN NATURE A VOTING MEMBER MUST BE PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF THE DEBATE THAT WOULD TAKE PLACE DURING THE IN CAMERA PERIOD:"

SUB ITEM TWO: "IF A VOTING MEMBER IS NOT PRESENT FOR THE ENTIRETY OF A DEBATE ON A MOTION IN QUESTION, THAT MEMBER MUST ABSTAIN;."

PRES/BIEMAN

CARRIED

MOTION TO CALL THE QUESTION

DESAULNIERS/SPYKER

CARRIED

## **DEFEATED**

- 8. Consultation
- 9. Evaluation
- 10. Recognition
- 11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

RUIZ

# **CARRIED**

Next Meeting Date: September 20, 2017

Meeting adjourned at 7:13PM