

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the
Students' Association of MacEwan University
April 18, 2018 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
Rachelle Drummond, Councilor
Sylvie Masson, Councilor
Jared Millions, Councilor
Sophia Qaderi, Councilor
Luis Ruiz, Councilor
Vanessa Sheppard, Councilor
Aubrianna Snow, Councilor
Tansy Spyker, Councilor

Kent Strayer, Councilor
Micheal Ziegler, Councilor
Ashley Zielsdorf, Councilor

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

Absent:
Jacob Marler, Councilor
Spencer Newton, Councilor

Meeting called to order at 6:01pm.

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 Amiskwaciwaskahikan 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 APRIL 18, 2018*

VPA/SHEPPARD

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION *TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2018*

RUIZ/DRUMMOND

CARRIED

3. Presentations

3.1. **AshokaU Presentation**

4. For Information

4.1. **Reports**

4.1.1. **Chief Returning Officer**

As presented.

4.1.2. **President**

As presented.

4.1.3. **Vice President Academic**

As presented.

4.1.4. Vice President External

CAUS & CASA update.

4.1.5. Vice President Operations & Finance

As presented.

4.1.6. Vice President Student Life

Hiring of MacEwan's Associate Vice President Students update.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4, 2018 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Ziegler - For the CRO/DRO: do you have any suggestions to improve the voter turn out for the AMA, in order to facilitate more questions, especially from people who are not direct friends of the candidates?

CRO – Online platforms, such as Facebook AMA, offer important avenues for voter engagement in modern democratic elections. The use of Facebook AMA in SAMU elections affords students the opportunity to interact with candidates, and get answers to questions about their election plans, in a setting that is moderated to ensure adherence to SAMU procedures and applicable University policies against harassment. Maximizing voter participation under this format is a challenge, and may require efforts on a couple of levels. Above all, as is typical with the ebbs and flows of politics, nothing is guaranteed in terms of increasing participation for the AMA forum. First, competitive races are crucial for generating enthusiasm, which means more students should be encouraged to put their names forward for SAMU elections. Second, SAMU should intensify its promotional efforts to get the word out about the Facebook AMA. Third, it is incumbent on all candidates to use their technological savviness and campaign resources to inform voters about this avenue for campaign engagement.

DRO – While I believe the voter engagement on the Facebook AMA was pretty high comparatively to previous forums for student engagement, I believe the best way to engage students to participate in any part of the election process is to have full races for all elected positions. This increases the engagement of the candidates, such as more classroom visits and face-to-face encounters in the hallway, which ultimately increases their outreach to the student body, allowing them to connect and provide information to potential voters. History has shown that when robust campaigning happens, students become more involved in the whole election process and are more likely to get out and vote.

Ziegler - For the President: Has the Leadership and Engagement Committee come up with any concrete ideas for engaging with Spring/Summer students?

Pres - No, we have not come up with concrete plans yet. We have been attempting to complete the items set out in the work plan. I have also been absent for a considerable amount for the month of March due to conferences, which unfortunately limits the available time for LEC meetings. There is now more flexibility for the committee and the new chair to consider other ideas.

Ziegler - For the President: what was the process employed to select Councillor Zielsdorf to sit on the Vice President University Relations Search Committee in your stead during the transition period?

Pres - There is no formal appointment process for being a part of search committees. Initially, the Executive decided it would be best for me to sit on the committee, as the position description of VP University Relations fit best within my portfolio. Unfortunately, the dates of the committee were set after the first meeting, and made it impossible for any outgoing or incoming EC member to sit on the committee. The meetings also extended much further into the summer period than I was first told. Last month as EC, we considered individuals who were likely to stay as councillors over the summer, continue as students into the Fall, and could handle the commitment if it extended further into the summer period. The first person I reached out to was Councillor Zielsdorf. She graciously accepted the opportunity. Had she not accepted, we would have likely asked another councillor.

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics include: cannabis legislation working group draft policy; support of UofA student union; consultation on demonstrations on campus draft policy; search committee appointment process;

6. In Camera Period

MOTION TO GO IN CAMERA

ZIEGLER/RUIZ

CARRIED

6.1. CRO Appointment

6.2 Councillor Appointment

MOTION TO GO OUT OF CAMERA

ZIEGLER/SPYKER

CARRIED

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Councillor appointment

MOTION TO APPOINT JADEN MELECH & MATTHEW YANISH AS COUNCILLORS FOR THE TERM OF MAY 1, 2018 TO OCTOBER 31, 2018 ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PRES/SHEPPARD

Favour: Zielsdorf, Spyker, Qaderi, Vpa, Vpe, Vpo, Sheppard, Snow, Drummond, Ruiz, Bieman, Pres, Vpsl

Opposed: Ziegler

CARRIED

7.2. Chief Returning Officer appointment

MOTION TO APPOINT KRISTEN STOIK AS THE CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER FOR A TERM OF MAY 1, 2018 TO APRIL 30, 2019 ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PRES/VPA

Favour: Zielsdorf, Spyker, Qaderi, Vpa, Vpe, Vpo, Sheppard, Snow, Drummond, Ruiz, Bieman, Pres, Vpsl

Opposed: Ziegler, Strayer, Millions, Masson

CARRIED

7.3. *Conduct, Elections and Referenda, and Role and Responsibilities of the Secondary Student Delegate policies*

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONDUCT, ELECTIONS AND REFERENDA, AND ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECONDARY STUDENT DELEGATE POLICIES, TO UPDATE TO GENDER NEUTRAL PRONOUNS, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE

VPO/SHEPPARD

Favour: Zielsdorf, Spyker, Qaderi, Vpa, Vpe, Vpo, Sheppard, Snow, Drummond, Strayer, Ruiz, Bieman, Pres, Ziegler, Millions, Masson, Vpsl

CARRIED

7.4. *Students' Council Meetings policy*

MOTION TO APPROVE THE STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE

VPO/DRUMMOND

Favour: Zielsdorf, Spyker, Qaderi, Vpa, Vpe, Vpo, Sheppard, Snow, Drummond, Strayer, Ruiz, Bieman, Pres, Ziegler, Millions, Masson, Vpsl

CARRIED

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

VPSL

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: May 16, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm