



## February 17, 2021 Students' Council Meeting - SC Audio Recording Transcript

### Speaker Key:

CHA	Chair
CSI	Councillor Singh
VPE	Vice President External
PRE	President
VPA	Vice President Academic
VPS	Vice President Student Life
BGS	Board of Governors Student Representative
CWI	Councillor Williams
CSE	Councillor Semotiuk
CFA	Councillor Fallis
CYA	Councillor Yanish

00:00:00

CHA Okay. We'll call the meeting to order.

Item 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 and Michif, and meeting place for many Indigenous peoples including the Nakawe, Siksika, Nakota Sioux and other nations.

Item 2. Approvals. 2.1 We have a motion. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Councillor Singh?

CSI Motion to approve the agenda for February 17<sup>th</sup>.

CHA 2021. Okay. Thank you. And a second, please? VP Student Life? Thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for February 17, 2021. Is there any debate? Question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the agenda for February 17, 2021. Is there anyone in disagreement? Please speak now. Motion carries.



00:01:28

Item 2.2. Another motion. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Vice President External?

VPE Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021.

CHA Thank you. And a second, please? Councillor Semotiuk. Thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the minutes of January 20, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion carries.

I think the President has the wrong name listed under their face there. Unless that's just my screen. I just wanted to point that out. Okay.

Item 3. Presentations. Nothing there.

Item 4. For Information. 4.1. Reports. 4.1.1. President? Any oral supplements?

PRE As presented. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you. 4.1.2 Vice President Academic? Any oral supplements?

VPA Thank you, Chair. I believe it's as presented.

CHA Thank you. 4.1.3. Vice President External? Any oral supplements?

VPE A very brief one, thank you, Chair. I would just direct everyone, even if they don't take a look at the rest of my report, although I think there's some good stuff in there, I would especially direct you to the Penguin Protest Saga, because it's been getting quite a lot of news coverage. Including national coverage by the CBC and The Globe and Mail. So, very fun. The articles are linked in my report. Thank you, Chair.

00:03:20

CHA Thank you. 4.1.4. Vice President of Operations and Finance. Report is in your package, for your information. 4.1.5. Vice President Student Life. Any Oral supplements?

VPS As presented. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you. 4.1.6. Board of Governors Student Representative? Any oral supplements?

BGS As presented. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you. 4.1.7. The Audit Committee Work Plans. In your package for your information. 4.2. Executive Committee minutes of January 6, 18, 21, 2021 are provided in your package for your information.

Item 5. Question Period. No written questions this time around for 5.1. 5.2... I'm going to apologize in advance. I've got a three year old who just yells all the time now. So, if you



hear that, that's what's happening. Nothing untoward is going on.

00:04:09

5.2. Oral Questions. We'll open question period now. If you have a question, just please type in, question, in the chat. Councillor Williams?

CWI So, this question is for the VPA, regarding the GFC meeting, where the Student Code of Conduct was approved and the rescission of the Student Rights and Responsibilities document. Do you know when the Student Code of Conduct is going to be put in place? Is there a timeline? Or a specific date for that to happen? Or anything else along those lines? Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you, Councillor Williams. Vice President Academic?

VPA Thank you, Chair. That's an excellent question. My understanding, and I might have to follow up with you as I just check back with how the motions were read. But I believe at that GFC meeting, since it has been approved at that level, now the Student Code of Conduct stands. And I guess, in effect, in the Rights and Responsibility document is officially rescinded, because it has already gone through the processes. And that was the last stamp of both of those approvals that was necessary.

I will just add that we did not... Just because we got a Student Code of Conduct and this is replacing the Student's Rights and Responsibilities document, that this does not remove any of our student's rights. It, instead, these rights are already in other policies. And now it's up to our SAMU.

00:06:10

We will be taking on a student, a Charter of Rights, so that we will be able to compile all the student's rights. So, they'll be in one place. But it's not taking any of them away. It's just taking away the duplication of them and then in a document that highlights that expectations that students are supposed to follow as a guideline. So, hopefully, that answers your question, Larissa. But I can definitely follow up with you, if there is any implementation dates that I am aware of. But it should be standing now.

CHA Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Williams, anything further?

CWI No, that was everything. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you. Councillor Semotiuk?

CSE I also had a question for the VPA. On your report that you sent out to us, there was a thing that discussed about the Microsoft products with the Information Technology Management Committee. I was just curious if there is a plan, especially whatever the fall is going to look like for MacEwan, if we're ever going to get access to Microsoft's Teams, using our Student ID? Just curious.

CHA Thank you, Councillor. Vice President Academic?

VPA Yes. An excellent question and one that we actually had discussed at that ITM meeting.



00:07:32

My understanding, currently, is that technically with this offer that we have access to in the Microsoft package that students have access to, technically, Teams could be a part of it. But MacEwan has turned that off, I guess, for students. And we don't have access to it, while staff do. I don't think... That's currently under consideration, I believe. From my memory I'm unsure if it is something... It's basically under consideration whether they will look at that as an option for students.

So, if you have any feedback on what your preference is or if you do have a preference or an opinion on the use of potential Teams, please do send that to me. But, currently, I don't believe that is in the works. It's just, kind of, under consideration.

CSE Sure, yes. I'll send you an e-mail. I just had some thoughts on it. Okay. Thank you.

CHA Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Semotiuk, did you have anything further?

CSE Nothing further.

CHA Thank you. Other questions? Last call for questions. Vice President Academic?

VPA Thank you, Chair. I just had a quick question for our VP External. It was mentioned in their report that their work with the Federal Policy Committee and that they had previously completed two policies. I was just curious, as a reminder of what those two policies that they were working on were?

00:09:19

CHA Thank you, Vice President. Vice President External?

VPE Absolutely. Thank you, Chair. Yes. So, the reason I actually didn't list them is because there's no concise way to word it. And I didn't want to add three extra lines to my report. But the two policies I was working on I, actually, ended up merging into a single policy. One was eliminating Parental Contributions from the Canada Student Loans Program assessment of your income. And the other one was removing Spousal Contributions from your needs assessment with Canada Student Loans Program. So, I put them together into a single policy and revamped them with some new data and everything.

But, yes. Like I said, there's no snappy way of saying it. But essentially this just allows people to be assessed as individuals when they apply for federal student loans. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you, Vice President. Vice President Academic, anything further?

VPA No, that sounds awesome. Thank you, Chair.

CHA Thank you. Other questions? Last call for questions. Okay. Move on to Item 6. In- Camera [?] period. Nothing there.

Item 7. Motions and Business Orders of the Day. Item 7.1. Redistribution of the Vice President Operations and Finance Workload.



00:10:43

I'm not sure who is going to be introducing this motion. Someone?

PRE I wouldn't mind doing so.

CHA President, go ahead.

PRE Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CH Can I just have you read the motion and then I'll turn the floor over to you.

PRE I'm terribly sorry. I don't think I've ever done that before. Okay. I move to approve the sending of Vice President Operations and Finance's workload redistribution to the other SAMU Executive Committee members. As noted in the attached document, which will continue until the Vice President Operations and Finance returns to work.

CHA Sorry. Councillor Singh? Did you second? Sorry. I'm having technical issues. I blew up the screen all of a sudden here. So, can I get a second, please? Vice President Student Life. Thank you. Apologies.

Okay. It has been moved and seconded to approve the SAMU Vice President Operations and Finance's workload redistribution to the other SAMU Executive Committee Members. As noted in the attached document, that will continue until the Vice President Operations and Finance returns to work. Over to you, President.

PRE Okay. Thank you. Sorry for jumping the gun on that one. I don't think I've ever before read out a motion at Councils. That was my first time. So, I jumped into the context.

00:12:19

So, onto the context. Basically, we have attached to this package any position that requires Student's Councils approval to change, is what we're voting on right now. Because the majority of them... If you read my report you would see it as an appendix in my report, the majority of the changes to the workload distribution can be done by Executive Committee [unclear] have already been done at last weeks Executive Committee meeting. Yes. So, it was exactly one week ago, I believe. Yes. That was on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

So, almost all of them have been done except for the ones the Council has to approve. The reason Council has to approve them is because they are explicit... Like, a Chair position in the Budget and Finance Committee that is explicitly listed as being for the VP operations. The only way that we can change that is through Council. And, yes. All the other context is there, I believe. The only one that's coming to mind at the moment... Sorry, I don't have the agenda right in front of me. The only one that's coming to mind at the moment is that Budget and Finance Committee Chair. So, yes. I'll leave it there and open the floor for discussion and the vote later.

CHA Thank you, President. Is there any debate? If there is, type, debate, in the chat right now. Councillor Fallis?

00:13:58



CFA Thank you, Chair. Less so debate but more so of a question. From my understanding, the medical leave is up in two days, on the 20<sup>th</sup>. So, I'm just wondering the application of the redistribution of the various roles of the necessity and the prioritization of it? If I could just get further clarification, why it's been brought up? If she is coming back into her role, theoretically, this week.

CHA Thank you, Councillor. President, are you able to answer that?

PRE Yes, definitely. Thank you, Chair. And thank you for that question. Basically, the main reason is because we need the Budget and Finance Chair position filled on Friday, two days from today. Because that's when we're hoping to submit to approve and recommend the budget to Student's Council.

So, we'd like to have a Chair in place for tomorrow's BFC meeting and Friday's BFC meeting. So, then we can have a more formal process of approving and recommending the budget to Council. Chances are we'll do that on Friday, because I don't imagine... The Budget and Finance Committee's deliberations haven't been super contentious and they've been... The governance side seems very accepting of what the administrative side wants to do, budgetarily. So, my bet is we'll submit it on Friday and I'll be in place as Chair to do that.

00:15:25

All the other ones that I mentioned in my report, those were redistributed informally at the beginning of the month and then formally at last week's UC meeting. So, we got into those and started doing that kind of work from the very beginning of the month. So, the ones that we could do early on, we did. Mainly, because a lot of it was time-sensitive. So, you had EC for a day and then you had the Town Hall. You had Campaigning 101, the Department 12 budget submission. Like, all those things had already been done.

But we basically gave the appendix of the Presidential Report so that you know who did them. But it does very much... A lot of them in my report are already done. And then the one that's being approved by Council is mainly for the purposes of Budget and Finance Committee on Friday.

CHA Thank you, President. Councillor Fallis, anything further?

CFA Nope. That was perfect. Thank you so much.

CHA Thank you. Other debates? Last call for debate. Okay.

The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the SAMU Vice President Operation and Finance's workload redistribution to the other SAMU Executive Committee members. As noted in the attached document, that will continue until the Vice President of Operations and Finance returns to work. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion carries.

00:16:57

Item 8. Consultation. Nothing there.



Item 9. Evaluation. The link is in your package. I direct you there.

Okay. Alan tells me we're all done. I can never tell if you're filling out the form or you're populating your Friendster profiles. But he tells me you're all done. So, that's good.

Item 10. Recognition. If you have recognition, please type in, recognition, in the chat. Councillor Singh?

CSI I would just like to recognize Councillor... Stephanie. I don't know how to pronounce her last name. I just want to thank her for doing a good job. This is probably a hard time for her as she's suffering from injury and for her to still do her due diligence and doing a good job. Thank you.

CHA Thank you. Councillor Yanish?

CYA Thank you, Chair. Similar to that, I just want to thank EC for doing an efficient redistribution of duties and that. Yes. I trust things will continue to operate well during her unfortunate absence. So, thank you, EC for doing that. Appreciate that.

CHA Thank you, Councillor. Vice President External?

00:18:41

VPE Thank you, Chair. Now I feel weird because my recognition was also for someone on EC and I feel like it's getting a bit insular. But I have to recognize our President, Sean Waddingham. I think he's been doing an absolutely phenomenal job under... I mean, I have a good sense of what his workload is because a lot of it is shared with me in the External Portfolio. But the way that he jumped-to on some of these issues, like the budget and everything, was really remarkable. And he's been keeping team morale much higher than it would otherwise be. Thank you. Chair.

CHA Thank you. Any other recognition? Vice President Academic?

VPA Thank you. I would like to recognize all of our SAMU staff who have helped us a lot these past few weeks. And in marketing, with all of our events, trying to get engagement from students and tell the students who attended those events it's very much appreciated. Thank you.

CHA Thank you. Other recognition? Last call for recognition. I'd just like to recognize your advocacy efforts as a Student's Association. I know it's tough to get media attention. And, sadly, I didn't get to see the penguins, but it did give us folks in government who do work down by the ledge a good chuckle. So, congratulations on that. Hopefully, next time those things stay up for a little bit longer. I would have walked up there. I only work half a block away from you. So, anyway. Congratulations on that.

00:20:32

Item 11. Adjournment. We have a motion. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Vice President External?



VPE Thank you, Chair. I'll move to adjourn.

CHA Thank you. That motion only requires one mover and is not debatable. It has been moved to adjourn. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion carries.

This meeting is adjourned. Have a good evening.

00:21:04