



April 21, 2021 Students' Council Meeting - Audio Recording Transcript

Speaker Key:

CH	Chair
VPS	Vice President Student Life
CW	Councillor Williams
VPA	Vice President Academic
TA	Tami
LA	Laura
AM	Anthony Mah
SH	Shawn
PR	President
VPE	Vice President External
JJ	Jed Johns
CF	Councillor Fallis
AL	Alan
CT	Councillor Tesfay
CA	Councillor Abboud
CL	Councillor Landberg-Llave
CS	Councillor Singh
CSE	Councillor Semotiuk
CTR	Councillor Cross-Trush
UM	Unknown Male
UF	Unknown Female

00:00:00



CH So I think we're recording and Alan hasn't told me not to start. So here we go, I'll call this meeting to order.

Item one, Treaty Six 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 Amiskwacyi 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.

00:01:05

Item two, Approvals 2.1. We have a motion. Can I have someone introduce that motion, please? Vice President Student Life?

VPS I move to approve the agenda for April 21, 2021.

CH Thank you, and a second, please? VP External, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for April 21, 2021. Is there any debate? Someone indicated to me that there was going to be an amendment. Councillor Williams?

CW Yes, I would like to move to amend the agenda.

CH Okay, how so?

CW I'd like to move to amend the agenda to switch the order of what is currently 7.2, the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Officials policy, and 7.3, the Committees policy.

CH Thank you, so we have a motion to amend to switch 7.2 and 7.3 in order. Is there a second, please, on the amendment? VP External, thank you. Councillor Williams, would you like to explain why you wish to put forward the amendment?

00:02:16

CW Yes please, thank you, Chair. Essentially the changes in the Roles and Responsibilities policy reflect the changes that are made in the Committees policy. And therefore, the Committees policy needs to be up for approval beforehand because if it is not approved, the changes to the Roles and Responsibilities policy are not applicable. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor Williams, so is there any debate with respect to the amendment only, please? Seeing none. It has been moved and seconded to amend the agenda to switch items 7.2 and 7.3. Is there anyone in opposition to the amendment? Please speak now. That motion carries, and the amendment is made.

So we're back to the main motion. Is there any further debate on the main motion as amended? I don't see anyone speaking up or anything in the chat, so it has been moved and seconded to approve the agenda for April 21, 2021 as amended. Is there anyone in



opposition to the motion? Please speak now. That motion carries.

Item 2.2, can I have someone introduce the motion, please? VP Academic?

00:03:43

VPA Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the minutes of March 17, 2021.

CH Thank you, Vice President, and a second, please? Councillor Williams, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the minutes of March 17, 2021. Is there any debate? I don't see anyone speaking up or anything in the chat. The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the minutes of March 17, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. That motion's carried.

Item three, Presentations, 3.1 Level UP presented by Careers and Experience. I'll hand it over to the president to introduce our guest.

PR Excellent, thank you so much. We have with us today Tami, the experiential learning facilitator, and Laura, the community partnership developer from Riipen, and I'm pretty excited about the program that they're going to be talking about today because I keep hearing about it from other student associations, from postsecondary institutions, from our provincial advocacy group, among others. So without any further delay, I will pass it off to our presenters to talk about that program.

TA Thank you so much for your very kind words. I will just share the presentation, and Laura and I will briefly introduce ourselves a little bit more and the Level UP program. And I will start my slide show from the beginning rather than you see the whole thing.

Again, my name is Tami Ambury. Many of you have probably already seen me in classes or in presentations such as these. I have spent a lot of time particularly in the School of Business, and so if any of you are coming from there, you may have seen me over there. I typically work in courses, in course-based experiences with our community partners, and this is the first time that we've offered paid opportunities. So we're very excited about that. Laura, if you want to briefly introduce yourself as well.

00:06:02

LA Yes, thanks Tami. Hi, everyone. My name is Laura. I work alongside Tami on the Careers and Experience team as a community partnership developer. So typically not student-body facing, so I'm probably a new face for all of you here. On the Level UP front, I work with our community partners and employers to help them create projects that students can work on. And as Tami mentioned, I get some money to do it.

So we're excited to let you know about the Level UP opportunity, and feel free if you have any questions in the chat. Tami and I are going to go back and forth, a tag-team effort, so if you have any questions at all, please feel free to ask them in the chat. And we'll answer anything that you need help with.



TA Thanks so much, Laura. So Level UP itself, just to briefly introduce it, is an opportunity actually offered as a joint venture between Riipen and the Government of Canada. We don't think the Government of Canada has officially announced this yet, which is a great opportunity for any schools across Canada that are affiliated with the Riipen learning platform. The Government of Canada gave Riipen \$8,500,000.00 to run this program, which essentially pays 6,125 paid project opportunities for students across Canada.

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MacEwan, we have a really great relationship with Riipen. We actually have on boarded the most community partners in all of the 240 schools that Riipen works with currently, and we've only been working with them for a year. So MacEwan has the opportunity of having our own board on MacEwan and is the only postsecondary in their system that is actually allowed to do that.

So we're excited to offer these opportunities to our students to obtain really relevant work experience, start developing networks, not just necessarily in Edmonton but community partner organizations can come from anywhere in the world. So students, if they want to build networks different places, they can do that as well while developing their skills in doing so. So I've mentioned some of this a little bit, and Laura and I will take turns on a slide. Laura, do you want to just introduce Riipen itself a little bit?

LA Yes, for sure. So Riipen, it's a platform. It actually was originally created by a couple of guys attending the University of Victoria, and it's an online platform that really facilitates experiential learning opportunities between postsecondary institutions such as MacEwan, students, and community partners, and nonprofit businesses.

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And it was created because the cofounders really noticed that many of their peers who graduated ahead of them were working at places that weren't really relevant to their education, and they realized that students were rarely exposed to opportunities within their courses to expand their network and to get opportunities as it relates to their program of study. So Riipen really aims to reduce and eliminate graduate underemployment. So typically, Riipen is used in conjunction with postsecondaries and coursework. So maybe, Tami, I'll through it back over to you because that's Tami's wheelhouse, and then we'll talk about the new branch of Level UP as a part of Riipen.

TA Yes, exactly, thanks, Laura. Currently, we have on boarded... This says 150 community partners, but I think Laura has spent the last month or two actually just meeting after meeting of on boarding new community partners because of Level UP who want to actually participate in this program.

This past semester we had about 17 courses that we worked with Riipen on and found community partners both, again, locally, and some of our community partners came from



different places in the US, so New York, LA, Chicago. We had somebody from Houston. We had people from all across Canada, organizations from all across Canada, not for profit and for profit. And one organization we worked with in Spain, that was a nonprofit working with women in Nepal. It gives our students, particularly during COVID, this really amazing opportunity to work with organizations they would never, ever have had the opportunity to work with.

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Even though we've been working with them for a year, actually Riipen is now using MacEwan as their flagship school on how experiential learning can be done really well partly because we're running it through the Careers and Experience office, and most other schools only run it by individual professor that is interested in this. So our scope of this is actually bigger than almost every school of the 240 academic institutions that they're working with, even given our smaller size. Riipen itself has over 10,000 businesses or nonprofits currently on boarded onto the platform, and again, I'm sure that there's more than that now.

So it gives our students the ability to access... And you can do it in a class but also just to let you know, we also talk individually to students to say do you want more experiences? Let's reach out to organizations if you want other experience, and you see something on the platform that's really interesting for you. And we'll help you build that relationship, so you can do some work that's directly career-related.

As Laura said, we have done this in courses, and this is the first time that Riipen itself is offering these kinds of paid opportunities based on the Government of Canada funding. There are some things that we need to take into consideration as an institution that the Government of Canada has set up these student eligibility requirements and that is students must be current postsecondary students enrolled in at least one class. What I'd like to also say is that until the date of your convocation, you're considered a student. So for people who are graduating this spring, they actually still can do projects until June, although I was looking on convocation dates, and it might be July. So anyways, something to keep in mind when people are actually convocating.

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There is no age limit, which is sometimes unique for funding opportunities for students. You only have to be enrolled in one class, and it could be an open studies. If you're enrolled in a longer-term certificate program that you might be only doing one class in continuing education, you also qualify for this funding. Students must be Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or persons to whom refugee protection has been conferred and must be legally entitled to work in Canada.

Unfortunately, that means that international students are not covered by Level UP funding. What we are saying to our international students is if they want experience that is unpaid,



please reach out. We can try to find stuff on Riipen that can provide them that type of experience. We're hopeful the Canadian government, potentially with the next round of funding, might change those regulations. Both us and Riipen are pushing them in that direction.

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One of the benefits we find of Level UP is they're committed to supporting a minimum of 30% of students from equity and underserved groups on the platform, which is pretty exciting. So I'm going to let Laura take over and talk to you a little bit more about what the Level UP program entails.

LA

Thanks, Tami, and feel free, Tami, to jump in any time. I typically talk about Level UP from an employer and community standpoint, so I may miss some key student tidbits. So feel free to interject, interrupt me at any time.

What does Level UP look like? Level UP projects are designed to be 80 hours long, so a short, easy chunkable project. And they're designed to be completed over two to eight-week timeframe. A lot of the organizations who upload projects are flexible with their timelines. They don't have a concrete start and end date, so they're flexible based on student availability. Maybe the student is taking on multiple projects, or they have a part-time or full-time job. You have that flexibility to iron out those details with our community partners, so if you decide to work on a project over eight weeks, that would be approximately ten hours a week. And, of course, if you would like to do your project in two weeks, it's going to be much more compressed. It's going to be about a 40-hour work week for two weeks.

And the main, also big caveat with Level UP projects are they are worked on completely remotely, so it's a great opportunity. Level UP program was launched...Because of COVID, it's obviously a horrible time where students can't head into organizations, into businesses, and get that hands-on experience like they typically would, so the government has provided this money to give students those opportunities still but being able to work on projects like this totally remotely. So you don't have to go into an office. You don't need to meet with your project coordinator or the person who will be providing guidance over the course of the project. You will be working from your home, from school totally remotely.

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As I mentioned... I'm skipping around, sorry. I see the next bullet is two to eight weeks. Again, these projects are two to eight weeks, but they are stackable. So there's no limit to the number of projects that you can take on. Of course, we don't recommend taking on two projects and they're both two weeks long because that would be 80 hours a week each, and I think that's probably not manageable. But thinking about what you can manage and it's thinking as a puzzle piece. What projects are going to be stacked back to back? Will you have some concurrently running? It's up to you how you apply the projects



and how you space those projects out based on your availability and, of course, if that works for the community partner's availability as well.

We have here... I guess we need to update this a little bit, the funding is available until March 2022. So you can work on projects up until the end of March 31 of next year. The only thing on the community partner side of things, just as an FYI, we didn't anticipate that 6,000 projects would get eaten up so quickly. So the deadline for our community partners to upload projects is actually April 30, so almost a year out from when the projects can run until.

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I'll share quickly at the end of my little speech. I'll walk you through the website really quickly, but the projects that you see now on the Level UP portal are going to be pretty much the projects that are going to be there for the next year. So there's not going to be, aside from maybe a few exceptions that Riipen allows, what you see now or what you see as of May 1st is what you'll be able to choose from until March 2022.

Some of the projects are looking for more than one student. Other projects scope much more than an 80-hour project, and so they're looking for teams of students. If you want to apply by yourself, that's great. You may be working with a team of students from other institutions from across Canada. Or if you have classmates, friends who you think would also be a really great fit for this project, you can have a team lead, and you can apply on behalf of you and your friends. So an employer will see when they've received your application that there's actually five of you who are applying for the position if they actually do need ten students. Even if a project is looking for a team, you don't have to apply as a team. You can, of course, apply individually but just know that you can also apply with friends if it's a team-based project.

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Again, I talked about this, flexible start and end dates. A lot of our projects are very flexible. Some do have start dates that are concrete just based off of our community partner needs. But otherwise, you can negotiate your start and end date with the employer.

And the most exciting part of it all is you receive a \$1,400.00 stipend at the end of the project. And I should highlight it's the end of the project, so if you are working on an eight-week project, you will get paid at the end of the eight weeks, so even if you are working on five eight-week projects, you won't be making any cash for eight weeks. Once that eight-week mark hits, you will be rolling in the cash. Just be mindful of that.

You can be creative with how you stack your projects. Maybe you have a project you're working on every month, every four weeks. At the end of every month, you're getting a \$1,400.00 stipend. Just be mindful that you are paid at the end of the project. And I also should note that if you're working in a team, maybe you're working on a project that



requires two students, and maybe you and a friend are both working on it, you will each receive that \$1,400.00 honorarium. So just because two of you are working on it does not mean you split that honorarium. You will each receive it, which I think is important to highlight as well.

TA That's great, Laura. Just to give a couple of examples, we have one community partner, The Alberta Land Institute for example, that actually it's all writing projects, and there's 200 students on each of their projects receiving \$1,400.00 each. We have at MacEwan quite a few projects that are with our staff and faculty now, so a staffed position where you would be hired as a research assistant or something.

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And there, for example, is with Emerging Leaders. I was mentioning this earlier, that there is 50 students that will be asked to be a part of the Emerging Leaders program and will take on 25 first-year students each starting in August and the fall semester. I think that's a really exciting opportunity for a bunch of MacEwan students who want to develop leadership opportunities and who have lived through a bit of this online learning and being of support to students who haven't had this experience yet in postsecondary.

Again, just to be able to pass this information along to whatever student groups that everyone is working with. Laura and I are hosting a number of student information sessions that involve much of this information. These are the dates. I'm happy to share this with Connor and the team so that you have the ability to send this out if necessary. We essentially go through much of the same information that we have right now, and then Laura walks everybody through how to sign up and how to on board and how to get on.

It is actually really supportive for students because to be honest, it is a bit complicated. It's more complicated for our community partners, but it's a bit complicated for our students too. So if they aren't on the Riipen platform because of their classes already, we highly recommend they sign up for a student information session.

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We also have a partner communications support, which essentially means some of the projects are very over scoped and our students don't necessarily... When they look at it, they can think, I'll never be able to finish this in two weeks full time, but they might feel not confident in how to have that conversation with our community partners. So we're setting up these, also, information sessions with regards to that, and we only have one booked because the other ones are gone. But we'll keep people posted. All of this is in MacEwan Life, and students can look on MacEwan Life in Careers and Events to see how they can sign up. We're meeting everybody in Zoom.

In addition, the other support that we're offering students is that our other community partnership developer, Lee Iverson, who is actually also a grad of the School of Business



at MacEwan in marketing, he and I are also offering one-on-one appointments for our students to be able to figure out how to negotiate, what things that students could potentially ask, what they might want to know, how you can sign up for multiple projects with the same organization, etc. Again, they can book those through MacEwan Life as well.

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And I believe that is the end of our slide show. I'm happy to answer any questions here, and Laura is going take you through very briefly what the platform looks like, so you have an idea as well. But again, if anyone has questions right now, we're happy to answer while she uploads that.

LA Thanks, Tami. I won't throw in the chat the guide. Maybe we'll send that out afterwards, so I won't go into great detail of how to sign up, being mindful of time. But I'll just show you what the platform looks like, so I'll go ahead and share my screen. Sorry, I should have had that ready to go.

TA Sounds very familiar.

LA Basically when we talk to students, we walk them through the sign-up guide. Again, I won't go through that, but they will need to do a quick eligibility test as Tami mentioned. Not a test, a brief questionnaire, just to make sure they meet all of the eligibility criteria. And once they do that, this process is literally about 25 seconds. They'll be sent a link and from that link, they can either log into their Riipen account if they have one already, or they can create a Riipen account, which is also a very quick process. And from there they will be able to access the Level UP projects.

So what does that look like? When they log in using that link that they'll be sent after they finish the questionnaire, they will be prompted onto this screen, which is the main Level UP portal. As Tami mentioned, we also have a MacEwan exclusive portal, dare I say, and I'll show that quickly as well. But the Level UP portal, this is where projects from organizations around the world, primarily in North America but around the world, have posted their projects.

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And as you can see here, they've broken them down into different categories into these different buckets where it says placements, and then this number for SCO and social media. This 178 means that there are currently 178 social media projects, web design, communications, marketing. There's almost 350 projects in there. STEM, so we really encourage students to poke around. Look at buckets of projects that may not be necessarily linked to their program of study but just all the buckets to see if there could be interesting projects that they would like to apply to.

So I just opened up the marketing projects bucket for a quick example. So when you click on one of the buckets, you'll be brought into this page. Again, it will reiterate what Level



UP projects are, and then you can view all the projects in here. Because this is the main Level UP portal, students from across Canada have access to these projects. So as you can see here, under the applications column, there are quite a few applications for a lot of these projects because students are applying from across Canada. They have this handy little filter here because, of course, it's a bit of a grind to scroll through 350 projects, so you can use this filter and filter out the projects based on a variety of criteria.

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We'll just open one up for example. So here is one, 1000 Towns of Canada. They are looking for... So if a student sees a project that they are interested in, they can click on it. They may have a video or a few resources uploaded that they can look at. There's a little description about the company. This project, they're looking for two students, and they're looking for students to write about different towns just based off a quick glimpse of this project. If you are interested, students can apply.

I won't, just for the sake of time, go into that, but they basically upload their resume. Of course they can make an appointment with one of our career development specialists on our team if they haven't looked at their resume in years. They can update it with one of our team members. They'll write a quick little introduction message about what maybe interests them about the project, what their background is, maybe what skills they can bring to the project. So it's just a three-step process. They'll submit their application, and then the employer or the community partner will receive a notification.

And a lot of the times, organizations don't organize a formal interview, but sometimes they set up an informal Zoom chat or just an email thread to get to know the student a little bit more, work out timelines, and see if they'd be a good fit. And then from there they can either accept or decline the application. Briefly, that's the main Level UP portal.

I won't go too much more into it, but I thought I'd also show our MacEwan Level UP portal before we wrap things up. So it's the exact same concept. We don't have 6,000 projects on our portal, but we do have a small but mighty Level UP portal. So you can see here, we've also broken down our projects into a few different disciplines.

As Tami mentioned, we have student staffing projects, which have been uploaded by some of our internal faculty and staff, so maybe I'll just show that one quickly. We have someone from our co-op team who's uploaded a project for co-op students. We have the Office of Sexual Violence Prevention and Education Response. We have positions on our team. Wellness and Psychological Services, so an interesting way to gain experience with faculty and staff on campus, which is pretty exciting.

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And then we have a few that have been built out specifically for design and web development projects, communications, Emerging Leaders as Tami mentioned. We have



this rather general MacEwan community partner project bucket where it's just the catchall for all of our projects because we didn't have time to separate them, to be honest. So it's the same concept. You view the projects. You can filter them out if you'd like. And you can see here, applications are much less because these projects are not accessible to other students at other postsecondary institutions.

I should say we are migrating some of the projects over onto the main Level UP portal because we want our students to have access to them, but we also want our community partners to find support whether or not it is a MacEwan student. Of course, their preference is a MacEwan student, but sometimes we don't want them being left high and dry. So some of them are migrating onto the main Level UP portal. But as you can see here, a lot of them have been matched, which is great, but a lot of them have zero applications.

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So it's a really, really great spot for students to look here and not only on the main Level UP portal because their chance of being a successful candidate on one of these projects here is much higher. So definitely would recommend students to look at both spots. And the process to sign up and apply for projects on our portal is the exact same as the main Level UP portal, so no difference there. But again, we'll share the guide maybe to Connor, and we'll get that spread out to everyone on the call so that you have that resource to share with your students.

TA I think that brings us to the end of our presentation, and if anybody has any questions, we're really happy to answer at this point.

LA It's a lot of information.

UM I just wanted to say thanks as a comment because I think this is really important for students to get that work-integrated learning because from two years of working at SAMU, I think it does help. It does have an impact, so I think it's a really important project. And I think we probably have time for one question if anybody has one pressing at this moment.

LA You can always reach out to us after as well via email. You can connect with us with any questions.

TA I think the key thing is we know students are busy right now, but there are so many opportunities. If people are connected to clubs or teams or something and want us to come in... Anthony, did you have a question?

00:31:59

AM Yes, I was wondering since I already did my coursework already this semester, but I'm planning on maybe taking one course in spring and summer. But I haven't enrolled yet since the deadline to enroll has changed for every student. You can enroll May 26. Some



people can enroll on May 3. So when you're trying to apply for these jobs, will they have to take into account what day you enrolled in the coursework?

TA I think we can definitely answer those questions. I think you would need to be registered in the class is the date, and once you're registered, I think then you're considered a student. But again, reach out to us if you need support with that for sure.

AM I have my date. It's in May, so I can't really enroll until May.

00:32:55

TA I know, they're really great opportunities, but there's lots of them on the upside. Again, the community partner projects will be full, but we do anticipate... We have some profs, for example, that are looking to hire research assistants, and they're looking to hire research assistants until March 2022. And so it would be one project after another with the same person, and you just keep going and keep getting \$1,400.00 along the way.

If there's other people that you think this would be a great presentation for, please feel free to put them in contact with us. We're happy to come in and do presentations for clubs or teams or other organizations at MacEwan too.

UM Thanks so much.

LA Thanks so much for having us and letting us speak about the opportunity. We really appreciate it. Any opportunity to get the word out, we're very grateful.

TA Yes, thanks so much. I'm not sure, Shawn, if there's anything else that...

SH I'll just pass it off to the Chair at this point, but I would say that I've saved the timelines for the info sessions. But I can send to councillors and executives and then if you could share your contact information either in the chat before you go or maybe to the students' council email, then we can distribute that as well. Thank you.

TA Thanks, everyone. Thanks for having us.

LA Yes, thanks so much. I don't know if I can input it into the chat. I may just be Zoom illiterate, but I'll email it out right now after Tami and I leave the call. Thanks so much for having us, everyone.

00:34:33

SH Thank you.

CH We'll move on to item four for Information 4.1, Reports, 4.1.1. President, any oral supplements?

PR Thank you, Chair. I do have just a brief one, I suppose. All I've been up to since my report was submitted last week is lots of transition work and, interestingly enough, getting on



with the chancellor appointment committee at MacEwan to appoint MacEwan's first chancellor, which is a cool endeavor since it's the inaugural one of that position. Other than that... I meant to tell you that the Board of Representatives couldn't be here today because he has a tribunal with MacEwan, and he sends his regrets. That's it for oral supplements. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, President. Anthony, I just note that you have your hand up still there. I'm presuming that you meant to take that down. 4.1.2, Vice President Academic, any oral supplements?

VPA Yes, thank you, Chair. I just want to apologize. I will get my report into council. But just to highlight some of the things that I've been up to this month, I've just been incredibly busy with figuring out and organizing transition, but it's going very well so far. We've been able to organize more shadowing opportunities for our incomings, and we are very happy about how those are going.

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But I do welcome questions on any of the things I've mentioned and am open for councilors to reach out to me as always. But some of the larger things that were going on is we did end up having a successful appointment or hiring of a new AVP student for MacEwan, Tim Tang, we are welcoming. That will start this summer, which that's really exciting, so a lot of my time this last few months have been on that hiring committee. We also had a GFC. We had the MacEwan Academic Advising [unclear] Committee meeting as well as some hiring for the associate dean Teaching and Learning position.

So lots of hiring positions and also looking at getting some restorative resolution and hearing volunteers. The president and I met with the Academic Integrity office, our contact there, to explore how we can get a greater roster of volunteers. So if any councilors are interested, I think that would be a great opportunity for you to get involved. And then some other committees, which if anyone has any questions on, I would definitely be open to answering questions. Thank you.

CH Thank you, 4.1.3, Vice President External, any oral supplements?

VPE Yes, just a few, thank you, Chair. So I'll just mention the two things that I don't believe I captured in my report which are of note from the last couple days. I'll also throw out my apology for what it's worth at this stage of the game for submitting a late report.

00:38:20

Anyway, the two noteworthy events were yesterday I attended the U-Pass Working Committee meeting and was able to bring along the incoming Vice President Operations and Finance to shadow in that, so that was very cool.

And then on Monday, we had also set up a meeting between myself, the president, both



of our respective incomings, and the Minister of Advanced Education, Demetrios Nicolaides so that essentially we could recreate the same experience for them that the president and I had at the beginning of our terms where when we were incomings. And the previous Vice President External, Cole Baker, brought us there to just have an informal back and forth with the minister to get more comfortable in those conversations. And I think it went very well, so I'm pleased to report that. I think that wraps it up. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. 4.1.4, Vice President Student Life, any oral supplements?

VPS As presented, thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. 4.1.5, Board of Governors Student Representative isn't here to offer any oral supplements. 4.1.6, Chief Returning Officer, I see my friend Jed Johns tuned in here. Jed, any oral supplements?

00:39:38

JJ Hi, Chair. No, nothing at this time, thank you.

CH Perfect, thank you. 4.1.7, Appointment Advisory Committee. Vice President Student Life, any oral supplements?

VPS As presented as well, thank you.

CH Thank you, and we've got an in-camera report there. 4.1.9, Audit Committee. Councillor Fallis, any oral supplements?

CF As presented, thank you.

CH Thank you. 4.1.10 Governance Remuneration Advisory Committee. President, any oral supplements?

PR That one can be as presented, thanks, Chair.

CH And 4.1.11, Budget and Finance Committee, President?

PR Also as presented.

CH 4.1.12, Executive Committee, I suppose I could offer oral supplements for that.

PR Yes, just one quick one, thank you. I just wanted to say that the next chair of EC, the president, just for everyone's knowledge, they should capture April in their quarterly report. With the way that the quarters break down, there's things we've done in April that should definitely make it into the next report that I was tempted to include. But with the way that the quarters divide up, I didn't, which is the way it's supposed to work. But just for the institutional knowledge of this council, April should be included. Even though it won't be the work the next executive committee, it will be included in the next quarterly report.



Thank you.

00:41:06

CH Thank you, President. 4.2, Executive Committee minutes of March 3rd, 18th, 30th, and April 1st, 2021 are provided in your package for your information.

Item five, Question Period, 5.1 Written Questions, none this week. 5.2, Oral Questions. If there are any questions, you can please type question in the chat, and I will recognize you in the order in which they appear. Last call for questions. Okay, we'll move on to item six, In-Camera Period. I need a motion to go in camera. Vice President External.

VPE Thank you, Chair. I move to go in camera.

CH Thank you, and a second? Councillor Tesfay. It has been moved and seconded to go in camera. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to go in camera. If there's anyone in opposition, please speak now. That motion is carried, and the in-camera link is in your package. So I'll follow you there.

00:42:27

I think we're good to go, so we'll go move on to item seven, Motions and Business Orders of the Day, 7.1 Councillor Vacancies. Vice President Student Life?

VPS Thank you, I move to appoint Anthony Mah as a councillor effective April 22, 2021 for a term ending October 31, 2021. Thank you.

CH Thank you, and a second, please? Councillor Tesfay, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to appoint Anthony Mah as councillor effective April 22, 2021 for a term ending October 31, 2021. Is there any debate? If there is, please type debate into the chat. The question is on the adoption of the motion to appoint Anthony Mah as councillor effective April 22, 2021 for a term ending October 31, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried.

Item 7.2, Committees policy. Councillor Williams?

CW I move to approve the Committees policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee.

CH Thank you, Councillor, and a second? Vice President External, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the Committees policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Councillor Williams, would you like to speak to the motion?

CW Yes I would, thank you, Chair. There are two main changes to this policy. The first one is including the Student Voice on Violence Elimination TOR into the policy so that it's easily accessible and able to be reviewed by students' council.

00:44:21



The second one is the addition of a new committee, the Students' Council Reappointment Committee. This was created as an alternative to our current reappointment process, and the committee will be on ad hoc basis formed of three student-at-large members. And it's created to ensure the neutrality and unbiased nature of reappointment while avoiding a potential conflict of interest amongst colleagues and potential colleagues. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you, Councillor. Is there any debate? Please type debate into the chat. The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the... Right in time. Vice President Academic?

VPA Apologies, thank you, Chair. Just a quick question, and apologies if it's highlighted in here, but who would be determining this or how would the students at large for this committee be determined?

CH Thank you, Vice President. Councillor Williams?

00:45:31

CW There is priority on students at large that already sit on SAMU committees, and it will be appointed by the Governance office.

CH Thank you. Vice President Academic, anything further there? No? Is there any further debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the Committees policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried.

Item 7.3, Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives policy. Councillor Williams?

CW I move to approve the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee.

CH Thank you, and a second? Councillor Semotiuk, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Councillor Williams, would you like to speak to the motion?

CW Yes, thank you, Chair. As alluded to when I amended the agenda earlier, the changes to this one essentially involve identifying that the councillor reappointments are now going to go through the SCRC committee and not through AAC like they currently do. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Is there any additional debate? Please type debate into the chat. Vice President Academic?

00:47:09

VPA Thank you, Chair. I was just curious if there was any conversation around under... Give me



one second here, apologies, under 10.3 when it talks about it coming to the recommendation from the SCRC committee coming to council to be voted on. I was wondering if there was conversation around that being a secret ballot vote or not. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Councillor Williams?

CW My memory is not serving me as to whether or not it was discussed. Alan, could you help me out or our VP External?

CH Maybe we'll go to the VP External.

VPE Perfect, yes, we did have a discussion around whether it would be a secret ballot vote or an open vote. And we decided that especially with reappointments that it's very important that is just because we don't want to jeopardize the integrity of the votes that councillors cast on someone and have that impact both the person who potentially could be reappointed, their feelings of their welcomeness and also the comfort of everyone else to express their opinions freely. Thank you.

00:48:45

CH Thank you, Vice President. Vice President Academic, anything further there?

VPA Yes, just because I see it's not in... Unless I'm reading it wrong, that it does not say that it will be a secret ballot vote. Is that something we should... Could I make a potential amendment then to the 10.3 that it will be two thirds voting in favor to pass through a secret ballot vote? Unless again, I'm missing it somewhere else here, apologies.

CH Vice President External?

VPE Yes, sorry, this might actually be a good opportunity for the governance advisor to potentially weigh in on this, but I believe that this is captured in another one of our... This is definitely captured in another one of our policies. I'm just having issues remembering exactly where that piece that we debated actually ended up.

CH Alan, can you speak to that?

AL Yes, thank you, Chair. Yes the Students' Council Meetings policy will be brought to council for approval with that change also considering feedback from the council as a whole about all voting. So expect that probably at the May meeting.

CH Okay, Vice President Academic, anything further?

VPA Thank you, yes, so just to clarify, there was a discussion in regards to the Students' Council Meeting policy, and then that will cover then any recommendations or reinstatements?

CH That's my understanding, and I see some nodding heads, yes.



VPA Awesome, thank you, yes, I just wanted to make sure because it mentioned the voting in this one. Thanks.

00:50:32

CH Any additional debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the Roles and Responsibilities of Elected Representatives policy on the recommendation of the Bylaws and Policy Committee. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. That motion is carried. Item 7.4, Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy, President?

PR Thank you, Chair. I move to approve the Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy.

CH Thank you, and a second? Vice President External, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to approve the Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy. President, would you like to speak to the motion?

PR Yes please, thank you. If you look in your agenda package, for the councillors who are voting on this, you can find it on page 86 of our very hefty agenda, and it goes through to page 91. And it's the copy, the text, of our new strategic plan. It lives in this Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy as an appendix, but that's essentially where the copy of it goes. And then ultimately, this will be developed through graphic design and formatting by our marketing department, and then be public facing after it's approved by council.

00:52:17

So you should have read this ahead of time, but just to recap some things about it as quickly as I can, the vision and the mission are heavily modified from last year with the vision being... Sorry, not last year, from the last three years of our strategic plan, with the vision being a lot more memorable and straightforward. And the same thing about everything else in it. It's all a lot more straightforward and memorable. And it's pithy in a way that doesn't dispense with the meaning behind it.

And what is valuable about that, what I'm excited about, is that when we have four goals, each with strategies underneath them, and we have five values. And then a very memorable vision statement, I think this is going to be the kind of strategic plan that can be used by the executives and the staff of SAMU without them even thinking about it actively because once you get them in your head, you don't have to go and look and take it off the shelf and read it. And even better, it doesn't have to live in a drawer or on a shelf and never be consulted. I think it's the kind of thing that will live on in people's minds as they go about their job because it's so memorable, and it's very impactful in the way that it's written.

I think that all I would like to highlight before I take a vote is that I think the process went



really well, including our staff and our executives, in getting this together and the goals being student experience and engagement, student voice, which includes advocacy, student supports, and then strengthening SAMU operations. With those as our four goals, I think it captures just as much as the seven goals that we had in our previous strategic plan without getting too much in the weeds and being overly specific about every little thing that we do.

00:54:18

These are big umbrella goals that I think are all really important things over the next chapter of SAMU's history. So I welcome questions and comments, and I do encourage you to read the agenda if you didn't, especially that portion, carefully if you just briefly glossed over that til now and, yes, looking forward to passing the strategic plan for the next three years.

CH Thank you, is there any debate? So please type debate into the chat. The question is on the adoption of the motion to approve the Official Reporting Mechanisms to SAMU Membership policy. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion is carried.

Item 7.5, Appointment Advisory Committee, so I understand from Alan for the next number of motions that we did not receive any nominees in advance. Is that still the case, Alan?

00:55:32

AL Yes, it is.

CH Okay, so I'll explain the process. I know this might be old hat to some of you, but we need to be clear on the process because this is important stuff. And Anthony, I'll get to you. Just give me a moment. The way that this will work is we have one or two vacancies on each of the committees listed here, and so first what we will do is we will go through a nomination process. And so you will type in nominate into the chat, and you can either nominate yourself or one of your colleagues on council.

If you nominate yourself, I will assume that you have accepted the nomination, and if you nominate one of your colleagues, I will turn the floor over to them to either accept or reject the nomination. Once we have gone through the nomination period, we will then proceed to the speeches portion where individuals that are nominees will have 30 seconds to plead their case for why they should be appointed to that particular committee. And the order in which we will do the speeches is the order in which the individuals have been nominated.

So we will complete that portion, and then you will proceed to clicking on the link where a ballot will appear. In cases where we have only one nominee, we will have a yes or no question and where we have more nominees than there are positions, you will select one or two. In the case where we have two individuals to appoint to a committee, you will select one or two individuals as your vote to be on that committee. And once all the votes are in,



Alan will let me know who the successful nominee is, and then we will proceed with the motion.

Anthony, as is our practice, we will allow for Anthony to be nominated for committees as we have one in the past. And so Anthony, you can nominate yourself. Even though you're not a council member officially today, I will recognize you, and others can nominate Anthony as well. So Anthony, does that cover your question?

00:58:16

AM Yes, that was my question.

CH See? Psychic. I got the vaccine, so that's one of the things that it provided me was that kind of insight. Before we proceed to nominations for the Appointment Advisory Committee, are there any questions with respect to the process?

So item seven, we've got the Appointment Advisory Committee. There's one position available, and so if you have a nomination, please type nominate into the chat like Anthony has done. So Mr. Mah, over to you.

AM Sorry, I think I jumped the gun. Is it okay if I appoint someone to a different committee than 7.5 or does it have to go in order?

CH Certainly, yes, okay. Are there any other nominations? Are there any nominations? Go ahead, Anthony.

00:59:21

AM I would like to nominate myself for the Audit Committee.

CH Okay, so we'll wait until we get to the Audit Committee. We'll only deal with the Appointment Advisory Committee at this point. To other councillors, are there any nominations for the Appointment Advisory Committee?

AM Is it okay if I nominate Tesla for 7.5?

CH Sorry, Anthony, who is Tesla? I don't know first names here, so you have to refer to them as...

AM Tesfay, Tesfay, Councillor Tesfay.

CH Councillor Tesfay.

CT Tesfay. I apologize, but I don't think I can run for more than two committees. So I will respectfully decline that, thank you, though.

CH Thank you.

VPA Just a point of order or clarification. A person is able to sit on more than two, they just



won't get any recognition through their honorarium for more than two. Thank you.

CH Thank you, Vice President. Okay councillors, we need a nomination. Councillor Abboud?

CA Thanks, Chair. I'll nominate myself, please.

01:00:59

CH Thank you, other nominations? We'll close the nomination period, and Councillor Abboud, your 30 seconds begins right now.

CA I think it would be a really interesting committee to get involved in. I am involved in various other committees at this point, but I just think that it would be really neat to be a part of this kind of process as opposed to some of the other ones that I am involved in. So it's more just myself broadening out, and I think it would be really interesting. And I think it's neat to just broaden out a little further than what I have so far, and hopefully, my semesters will get a little quieter.

CH Thank you Councillor Abboud. So I will direct you to the ballot, and you can fill in the ballot there. And President, the link to the ballot is in the agenda. That was a reference to a previous joke.

PR That's what I'm used to.

CH [Silence]. I know there are three people still voting, but we've got a majority in favor of Councillor Abboud, so Vice President Student Life, would you like to read the motion? Vice President Student Life there?

01:04:01

VPS Apologies, I just ran to the bathroom. I move to appoint Councillor Abboud to the Appointment Advisory Committee effective May 1, 2021.

CH Thank you, and a second? Councillor Tran, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to appoint Councillor Abboud to the Appointment Advisory Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to appoint Councillor Abboud to the Appointment Advisory Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried.

Item 7.6, Audit Committee, we'll open the nominations now. Mr. Mah?

AM I motion to appoint myself to the Audit Committee. What happened to my computer?

CH It's not a motion, but we'll put you on the list as a nominee. Other nominations?

AM That's weird, my [unclear] just went all black.

CH Anthony, can I get you to mute yourself, please?



- AM I can't actually for some reason on my computer there is...
- CH Now you're muted, so all good. Other nominations? We have two available positions. I have a feeling Councillor Abboud can't save us again this time, so other nominations?
- UM Point of information, am I able to ask who is not on two as far as councillors go right now?
- CH Sure, if you're not on two, just type not on two in the chat, if you so choose, of course. Other nominations? Councillor Tesfay?
- 01:06:30
- CT I would like to nominate Councillor Landberg to the Audit Committee.
- CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillor Landberg-Llave, do you accept the nomination?
- CL Hi, I really appreciate it, but I'll have to decline.
- CH Thank you. Other nominations? Vice President Academic?
- VPA Thank you. Chair, I was just going to say it would be nice to have a full slate on a committee, but we still have councillor spots open and [unclear] okay to have some empty spots at this time.
- CH Okay, we'll proceed then with Mr. Mah. Your 30 seconds to plead your case begins right now.
- AM I think I would be suitable for this position on the Audit Committee since I have prior experience on the Audit Committee as a member and also as an accounting student. I also have prior experience from internships in the field of auditing, so I think those skills can be applied to this committee. And I can be good resource for this committee.
- 01:07:50
- CH Thank you, sir. So I will direct you to the ballot right now.
- AM Just a quick interjection. For the last one, I couldn't see the ballot box for some reason.
- CH You're not a councillor yet, Anthony, so you wouldn't have access.
- AM Okay.
- CH I know there's two votes outstanding, but Anthony Mah has majority of the votes in his favor. So Councillor Fallis, would you like to read the motion, please?
- CF Absolutely, thank you, Chair. I motion to appoint Councillor Mah to the Audit Committee effective May 1, 2021.
- CH Thank you, and a second, please? Councillor Tran. It has been moved and seconded to appoint Anthony Mah to the Audit Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there any debate?



The question is on the adoption of the motion to appoint Anthony Mah to the Audit Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. The motion is carried.

7.7, Budget and Finance Committee, we'll open nominations now. Councillor Abboud?

CA Thank you, Chair. I'd like to nominate Councillor Singh.

01:10:11

CH Thank you, Councillor. Councillor Singh, do you accept the nomination?

CS I appreciate the offer, but I have to decline.

CH Thank you. Vice President Academic?

VPA Thank you, Chair. I would like to nominate Councillor Mah for this committee.

CH Thank you. Anthony Mah, do you accept the nomination?

AM I accept.

CH Thank you. Other nominations? We will close nominations now, and Anthony, your 30 seconds begins right now.

AM Similar to what I said for the other committee, I have prior experience in the field of accounting, and also I have taken courses in financial accounting, advanced financial accounting, as well as intermediate financial accounting. And I think those would best serve. And also managerial accounting too, I did a lot of assignments for the budgeting in managerial accounting, so I think those courses would tie well into this committee.

01:11:25

CH Thank you. I'll direct you all to the ballot right now. [Silence]. I know there's still two votes outstanding, but we have a majority in favor of Anthony Mah. So President, would you like to read the motion?

PR Yes, thank you, Chair. I would like to move to appoint Councillor Mah to the Budget and Finance Committee effective May 1, 2021.

CH Thank you, and a second? Councillor Tran, thank you. It has been moved and seconded to appoint Councillor Mah to the Budget and Finance Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there any debate? The question is on the adoption of the motion to appoint Councillor Mah to the Budget and Finance Committee effective May 1, 2021. Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion is carried.

Item 7.8, Bylaws and Policy Committee, we'll open nominations now. Councillor Abboud?

CA Yes, thank you, Chair. I'd like to nominate Councillor Semotiuk.



- CH Thank you. Councillor Semotiuk, do you accept the nomination?
- CSE Unfortunately, I will have to decline it, but I really do appreciate the nomination. Thank you.
- CH Thank you. Other nominations? Councillor Tran?
- CT Chair, I'd like to nominate Councillor Landberg-Llave for the Bylaws and Policy Committee.
- CH Thank you, Councillor Landberg-Llave, do you accept the nomination?
- CL I appreciate it very much, but I'll decline. Thank you.
- 01:14:20
- CH Thank you. Other nominations? I don't see any other nominations, so we'll move on to 7.9, the Leadership and Review Committee. We'll open nominations now. Councillor Fallis?
- CF Thank you, Chair. I would like to nominate Councillor Tran.
- CH Thank you, Councillor Fallis. Councillor Tran, do you accept the nomination?
- CT I accept the nomination.
- CH Thank you. Other nominations? Councillor Abboud?
- CA Yes thank you, can I nominate Councillor Trush?
- CH Thank you. Councillor Cross-Trush, do you accept the nomination?
- 01:15:23
- CTR I'm not sure if I'm able to given that I'll be exiting student council at the end of this month for executive committee.
- UF As just a point of order, Councillor Tran's already on this committee.
- CH Nice point of order, thank you. Thank you for the clarification. So we have no nominations. Other nominations? I don't see any nominees, so we'll move on to item eight, Consultation, nothing there.
- Item nine, Evaluation, I'll direct you to the link in the agenda for the form. Just waiting on one more. All right, Alan tells me that we're all done. I can never tell if you're still filling out the form or checking out the latest Russian app to download and surprise us with.
- So we'll move on to item ten, Recognition. We'll open recognition now. If you have an item of recognition, please type recognition in the chat. Councillor Semotiuk?
- CS Just want to recognize the new Councillor Mah who liked to jump right in and get onto some committees. I'm excited to have you on board with us.



CH Excellent, thank you. Other recognition? Councillor Williams?

CW I'd just like to take a moment to recognize all the current EC and all the work that they've put in the past year as this will be their last meeting. And they truly did a lot of amazing work in such an unusual year with the pandemic, and I truly want to thank you guys for all of your hard work and dedication this past year.

CH Thank you. President?

01:18:45

PR Thank you so much. I just wanted to recognize the chair himself and congratulate you for the new youngest member of your family that was born recently, your new baby. And also recognize you for making it to council so soon after to help us out with our business, which I appreciate because otherwise it might have been me chairing, and who knows how that would have went. Congratulations and recognition for that.

CH Thank you, President. Other recognition? Vice President External?

VPE Thank you, Chair. I would just like to take this time to recognize all of the incoming EC. I think they have each, as far as I can tell, shown an incredible eagerness to learn and an eagerness to get as many meetings and as many calls as possible. And I think that that really is incredibly promising for the future of Students' Council and SAMU. So yes, I just wanted to say thank you so much for their attentiveness, for their curiosity, and for their passion for these positions, so I'm super eager to see what they'll do in the coming year. Thank you, Chair.

CH Thank you. Councilor Cross-Trush?

01:20:17

CTR Thank you, I just wanted to say recognition to all of EC but also very specifically to President and VP Student Life for having served on EC through two very tumultuous back-to-back years full of some very unique challenges. Here's to hoping that the two years that you served very diligently will not occur again. The situations, rather, that led to the two years.

CH Thank you. Other recognition? Last call for recognition? Okay councillors, I'd like to recognize you all. We plowed through a really meaty agenda today in a reasonable amount of time when we consider that we had a long presentation in there at the same time. So congratulations to all of you for that.

I want to recognize the outgoing executive. Really, really high-quality work has been shown through the reports that you guys have put together, and you've shown exceptional agility in completing your duties over what will be in the history books as an exceptional year. And so congratulations on that.



And I want to encourage you to, you've heard me say this before to councils, but encourage you to continue to serve on governance boards wherever you go because the skills that you've gathered here are in high demand. Oftentimes nonprofits aren't really good at seeking out high-quality people, but you can always reach out to me if you're looking for those types of opportunities. Normally I'd say if you're looking for those types of opportunities in government as well, but it's not a good time for that right now.

01:22:13

I just want to say congratulations on a couple of really good years, and please do carry those skills forward with you. I wouldn't miss these meetings for anything, even if I have to put toothpicks in my eyes. That's a Clockwork Orange reference, for those of you that are not downloading Russian apps.

We'll move on to item 11, Adjournment. We have a motion? Can I get someone to read that motion, please? Councillor Semotiuk?

CS I move to adjourn.

CH Thank you. That motion only requires one mover and is not debatable. The question is on the adoption of the motion to adjourn? Is there anyone in opposition? Please speak now. Motion carries. This meeting is adjourned. Have a good evening, everyone.

UM Thank you everyone, see you.

UF Thanks.

UM Bye. Good luck on your finals.

UM Goodbye.

UM Yes, finals.

UF Good night, everybody.

UF [Unclear]. Bye.

01:23:23