



STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF MACEWAN UNIVERSITY

Minutes for the Students' Council Meeting of the Students' Association of MacEwan University November 17, 2021 at 6:00pm in room #SA-200

Voting Members:

Gabriel Ambutong, Councillor
Abby Beka, Councillor
Freja Cartujano, Councillor
Thomas Cross-Trush, Vice President Student Life
Myles Dykes, President
Cassey Fallis, Vice President Academic
Jordan Gable, Councillor
Alex Hominiuk, Councillor
Joseph A. La Torre, Councillor
Nhi Phan, Councillor
Kendell Semotiuk, Councillor
Rayyah Sempala, Councillor
Asif Siddiqui, Councillor
Alem Tesfay, Councillor

Elaine Tran, Councillor
Larissa Williams, Vice President Operations and Finance
Matt Yanish, Vice President External
vacant, Councillor
vacant, Councillor

SAMU Officials and Council Support:
Timothy Jobs, Chair
Alan Honey, Governance Advisor
Samantha Callaghan, Administrative Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 6:00p.m.

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 NOVEMBER 17, 2021

SIDDQUI/VPO

MOTION TO AMEND AGENDA TO MOVE 7.6 LEADERSHIP AND REVIEW COMMITTEE TO 7.1 & 7.3 BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE TO 7.2

PRES/VPO

CARRIED

CARRIED

2.2 MOTION

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2021

TRAN/VPA

CARRIED

3. Presentations

4. For Information

4.1. Reports

4.1.1. President

EC retreat; convocation attendance; CAUS counterparts attendance;

4.1.2. Vice President Academic

As presented.

4.1.3. Vice President External

Met with Minister Wilson re culturally appropriate spaces on University campuses; CAUS counterparts facilitation.

4.1.4. Vice President Operations & Finance

As presented.

4.1.5. Vice President Student Life

As presented.

4.1.6. Chief Returning Officer

As presented.

4.2. Executive Committee Minutes

Minutes of September 8, 22, October 6, and 20, 2021 provided.

5. Question Period

5.1. Written Questions

Cartujano – to the Vpa, what does the continuing education policy entail? Why are they putting it in rescission?

Vpa – The Continuing Education policy is an outdated policy from when the School of Continuing Education did not exist. It primarily covers the non-credit courses and certificates offered at MacEwan University that are not in any other faculty/school, covering students regarding final grades, withdrawal, refunds, etc. There is no longer a requirement for a policy that is specific to continuing education, as the School of Continuing Education has worked on embedding language in policies consistent to the rest of MacEwan's policies for all students. Admission and registration practices, along with management of student records have been aligned with the Office of the University Registrar as well. This policy was first recommended for rescission in 2017, due to the redundancy in conjunction with the rest MacEwan policies and has been integrated into the other policies since then. You can view the policy itself here: https://www.macewan.ca/contribute/groups/public/documents/policy/continuing_education.pdf

Phan - To Pres: regarding the CAUS All President's meeting, how all other presidents' opinions toward tuition and fee help with the consultation between SAMU and MacEwan? Do other organizations have similar issues with the schools?

You also mention that SAMU and MacEwan received the bill from Graham, does it mean MacEwan have a sayings or be responsible partly for the payment?

Pres - Councillor Phan, thank you for your questions! It was helpful for me to get the input of the other presidents for multiple reasons. First, I got to know where the students association's across the province were in the process of tuition and fees consultation; we were the first university to go through the process, so I couldn't glean much in that respect. Second, I was able to get a pulse on the direction of tuition increases across the province, which helped inform our advocacy towards MacEwan's administration. And lastly, there are some incredible student leaders who have been

through the consultation process before who were able to give me some words of wisdom on how to approach the process.

As for the bill received by Graham construction, most decisions, including payment, were made by the MacEwan/SAMU Building Joint Steering Committee which was equally composed of folks from MacEwan and SAMU. This is due to the complex structure of owning our building, which is technically owned by MacEwan but then leased to us. As for the payment on the bill itself, SAMU is 100% responsible for the payment.

Phan - To Vpa: Does SAMU have an agency over the termination of some MacEwan program such as the bachelor of Applied Business Administration or I might understand it incorrectly?

Vpa – No, SAMU does not have agency over termination of MacEwan programs. At most, we can be consulted on the decision, but in this case SAMU was not on the original consultation list for the termination of the Bachelor of Applied Business Administration – Accounting. That being said, all active students have graduated as of June 2021 convocation or transferred into the Bachelor of Commerce with an Accounting Major. By the time this item reached the Academic Planning and Quality Assurance committee, the Chair of Accounting and Finance had met with each of the students active in the program and it had gone through the School of Business Council. From my understanding, this program is redundant with what is already offered in the School of Business, including the work placement component as part of the program.

Phan - To Vpe: out of the 6 students Resolution from the Alberta Student Congress, I noticed that 2 of them highlights the support for international student. As one myself, the decisions intrigued me and I wonder what's the incentives and the benefit it can bring for Alberta?

Vpe – Great question. In summary, the priorities are around making it easier for international students to apply for the Alberta Immigration Nomination Program, as well as general support for international students. Both of these priorities are intended to make it easier for international students to become Canadian citizens, as well as make the student experience more affordable for international students. The hope is that this can be pitched to the AB government as a way to help aid in the economic recovery of the province, as it serves to benefit Alberta if we can get more skilled people into our labor force.

Phan - To everyone: as mentioned by the president, VPA and VPE, bill 74 implies the introduction of a large advisory committee, but I not yet grasp the significance of this bill. Can you elaborate and give us some insights?

Vpe – in early 2021, the Government of Alberta released its “Alberta 2030: Building Skills For Jobs” framework. This is a sort of “roadmap” or “strategic plan” for what the current Government of Alberta wants the post-secondary system in Alberta to look like. This is multi-faceted and complicated, as the UCP are not guaranteed to maintain power for the next decade. All the same, this AB2030 framework needs to be achieved mostly through implementing new bills. So, bill 74 is among the first steps taken towards this AB2030 goal. The advisory committee itself is just the most substantial part of the change, as it will be a committee made up of former industry executives that can provide direction on changes to the post-secondary system. This could be bad for the students of MacEwan, as this advisory committee may or may not prioritize the type of education offered at MacEwan. Lastly, here is a link to the AB2030 thing, and if you would like more information on it, I would be happy to provide it! <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-2030-building-skills-for-jobs.aspx>

5.2. Oral Questions

Topics Include: sexual violence on campus/campus climate survey; Barrier Free Research Group engagement with students; Anti racism week advertising.

6. In Camera Period

7. Motions & Business Orders of the Day

7.1. Leadership and Review Committee

Nominees: Ambutong, Phan, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tran

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR TRAN AND PHAN TO THE LEADERSHIP AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

PRES/CARTUJANO

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.2. Bylaws and Policy Committee

Nominees: La Torre, Sempala, Tran, Cartujano

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS LA TORRE AND CARTUJANO TO THE BYLAWS AND POLICY COMMITTEE

PRES/SIDDQUI

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.3. Appointment Advisory Committee

Nominees: Beka, Siddiqui

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR BEKA TO THE APPOINTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PRES/VPA

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.4. Audit Committee

Nominees: Tesfay, Gable, Hominiuk

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS TESFAY, GABLE, AND HOMINIUK TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

PRES/AMBUTONG

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.5. Budget and Finance Committee

Nominees: Phan, Siddiqui, Cartujano

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS SIDDIQUI AND PHAN TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

PRES/AMBUTONG

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.6. Governance Remuneration Advisory Committee

Nominees: Hominiuk, Siddiqui

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR SIDDIQUI TO THE GOVERNANCE REMUNERATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PRES/VPA

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.7. Health and Dental Sub-Committee

Nominees: Gable, Tesfay, Beka, Hominiuk

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLOR GABLE TO THE HEALTH AND DENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE

PRES/SIDDIQUI

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.8. Awards Sub-Committee

Nominees: Semotiuk, Hominiuk,

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS SEMOTIUK AND HOMINIUK TO THE AWARDS SUB-COMMITTEE

PRES/VPE

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

7.9. Student Voice on Violence Elimination Sub-Committee

Nominees: Sempala, Tran, Beka, Ambutong

MOTION TO APPOINT COUNCILLORS SEMPALA AND AMBUTONG TO THE STUDENT VOICE ON VIOLENCE ELIMINATION SUB-COMMITTEE

PRES/VPA

Favour: Ambutong, Beka, Cartujano, Vpsl, Pres, Vpa, Gable, Hominiuk, La Torre, Phan, Semotiuk, Sempala, Siddiqui, Tesfay, Tran, Vpo, Vpe

CARRIED

8. Consultation

9. Evaluation

10. Recognition

11. Adjournment

MOTION TO ADJOURN

VPE

CARRIED

Next Meeting Date: December 15, 2021

Meeting adjourned at 7:16pm.