

Minutes AUSU Council Meeting

APPROVED – June 11, 2014

AUSU Council Meeting
May 14, 2014
Teleconference

Councillors Present: Jason Nixon, Kim Newsome, Corrina Green, Alexander Poulton, Bonita Arbeau, Christine Villeneuve, Megan Daigneault, Shawna Wasylshyn
Staff Present: Tamra Ross, Karyna McDonald, and Sarah Maddock
Other Members: Karl Low
Record of Minutes: Sarah Maddock
Absent: N/A

Call to Order: 17:33 (MST)

Agenda and Minutes

1.0 Approval of Agenda

2014-05-14 Council Meeting Agenda

S. Wasylshyn/A. Poulton - Carried 8/0 -

2.0 Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes

2014-03-31 DRAFT Meeting Minutes.docx

M. Daigneault/C. Green - Carried 8/0 -

New Business:

3.0 Motion: BIRT AUSU repeal "Policy 7.05 Clubs".

K. Newsome/C. Villeneuve - Carried 8/0 -

4.0 Motion: BIRT AUSU repeal "Policy 7.06 Points Program".

B. Arbeau/S. Wasylshyn - Carried 8/0 -

5.0 Motion: BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy_4.06_Council_Planning_and_Schedule for inclusion in our policy manual.

A. Poulton/M. Daigneault - Carried 8/0 -

- 6.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy_5.06_Temporary_Employees for inclusion in our policy manual.

05142014.01 Removed the word "may" from point 5.06.04(b) and removed "or the Executive Director may elect to retain the services of a placement agency" from newly renumbered point 5.06.05.

S. Wasylshyn/A. Poulton - Carried 8/0 -

- 7.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy_5.07_Staff_Prof_Development for inclusion in our policy manual.

05142014.02 Replaced the word "required" with "recommended" in point 5.07.04.

M. Daigneault/B. Arbeau - Carried 8/0 -

- 8.0 Motion:** BIRT AUSU accept the presented updated copy of Policy_8.04_TOR_Media_Committee for inclusion in our policy manual.

05142014.03 Replaced the word "preference" for "orientation" in point 8.04.04(a).

05142014.04 Committee name change from "Media Committee" to "Member Engagement and Communications Committee".

K. Newsome/S. Wasylshyn - Carried 8/0 -

Reports

- 9.0 President's Report**
Report Accepted.

- 10.0 Vice President External's Report**
Report Accepted.

- 11.0 Vice President Finance's Report**
Report Accepted.

- 12.0 Executive Meeting Report**
No Report.

13.0 Finance Committee Report

Report Accepted.

14.0 Awards Committee Report

Report Accepted.

15.0 Media Committee Report – to be changed to MECC report at next meeting

Report Accepted.

16.0 Executive Director's Report

Report Accepted.

17.0 Office Coordinator's Report

Report Accepted.

05142014.05 18:48 MST: S. Wasylyshyn leaves meeting.

05142014.06 18:49 MST: S. Wasylyshyn rejoins meeting.

Motion: BIRT that council accept the reports as presented.

A. Poulton/M. Daigneault

- Carried 8/0 -

18.0 Next meeting date and time

17:30 MST on June 11, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 18:50 MST

C. Villeneuve adjourned.

April 2014

AUSU Executive Report

Kim Newsome, VP External and Student Affairs

Prepared: May 3, 2013



Current Issues

Changeover

Executive changeover has gone fairly smoothly. I received a lot of useful reports and information from the outgoing VPEX Bethany Tynes. The executive has been meeting regularly and are now working on orientation of new councillors with the NCSL course and meeting deadlines set out in the AUSU planning policy.

GFC

GFC meeting was relatively uneventful. The topic that received the most discussion was a new expense program that was implemented by AU. It was noted that this new program put more of an onus on the individual to complete all aspects of their expenses. It was felt that this was unnecessarily holding up tutors and taking away time that should be spent on students.

GFC – ALEC & LSWG

The final draft of a report created by the LSWG (Learning Services Working Group) has been completed and submitted to GFC. It is my understanding that this report will be posted on The Landing for comment and review from the AU community. The report examines undergraduate learning support systems currently utilized by AU.

Lobby Document

The lobby document handed over to me is in the very early stages and still requires a lot of work. I have read and reviewed lobby docs from other similar organizations. I would like to explore options that would meet AUSU's lobbying needs.

AUSU Committees

Awards Committee has been handed over to Bonita as Chair. I continue to remain on the committee as a non-voting member as a resource to the new members.

As VPEX, I am currently chair of the Media Committee. More about the work we have done is included in my Media Committee Report. However, getting this committee organized and getting a plan in place for the work over the next year is a priority.

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Meetings

AUSU Council Meeting – March 31

AUSU Exec Meeting – April 2

AUSU Exec Meeting – April 17

AU GFC ALEC – April 22

AUSU Exec Meeting with AU VPA – April 23

AUSU Exec Meeting – April 23

AU GFC – April 30

AUSU Exec Meeting – April 30

Hours

Weekly Breakdown

Week of:	Hours
Mar 30 – April 5	30.75
April 6 – 12	30
April 13 – 19	29.5
April 20 – 26	30
4-week average	30.06

Timesheets and Compliance

I have reviewed the hours of my fellow executives, and believe that all of us are currently within the acceptable range dictated by policy.

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News Roundup

A collection of optional readings related to post-secondary education:

AU in the News

Volunteers required for health research project headed by Dr. Jeff Vallance, Canada Research Chair with Athabasca University. <http://medicinehatnews.com/news/local-news/2014/05/01/volunteers-required-for-health-research-project/>

Researchers at Qatar University and Canada's Athabasca University are collaborating on a mobile app that will provide performance support to oil and gas company employees. This is the first mobile app to be used for professional training in Qatar, and possibly in the oil and gas industry worldwide. <http://www.astd.org/Publications/Magazines/TD/TD-Archive/2014/05/Intelligence-Bringing-Learning-Into-New-Territory>

Drs. Dave Brodbeck and Craig Montgomerie (instructor at AU) are this year's invited speakers at the forum, which focuses on the pros and cons of using online support in teaching and learning. <http://local2.ca/ssm/viewarticle.php?id=14828>

Mo' money, mo' money.....

The Alberta government has released details on the extra \$32.5 million funding for PSE announced in the [2014 budget](#), tabled at the beginning of March. The funding will create 2,000 new spaces this fall in the Campus Alberta system to increase access to high-demand programs such as engineering, environmental science, and occupational therapy. [Alberta News Release](#) ; Funding breakdown: <http://bit.ly/1j4R85s>

After cutting \$147 million in funding to PSE institutions in 2013-14, the Alberta government recently announced it would add \$82.5 million back into the PSE budget. However, according to some, the variations in the return of funding signal preferential treatment for certain technical programs and even for entire schools. [Metro News](#)

Mental Health Focus.....

Canadian PSE students are lonely, stressed, and overwhelmed, according to results released by the National College Health Assessment. [The Province](#) (1) | [The Province](#) (2) | [Windsor Star](#) | [Full Report](#)

An annual survey of counselling centre directors has found that universities are still poorly equipped to deal with a growing number of students seeking help for mental health issues. While budgets and hiring levels are improving post-recession, the number of patients is growing at an even quicker rate. [Inside Higher Ed](#) | [AUCCCD Report](#)

An article in *The Globe and Mail* questions the role that universities should play in their students' mental health. Joe Henry, Associate Dean of Student Success at Sheridan College says that universities must be a part of a treatment solution, he says that they

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cannot be solely responsible. Instead he suggests that universities must strengthen their relationships with external agencies and community health centres. [*Globe and Mail*](#)

AUSU Executive Report

Corrina Green, VP Finance and Administration

Prepared: May 3rd, 2014



Current Issues

Changeover

April has been a busy month trying to get brought up to speed on so many things. It has been a month of lots of reading, discussion and getting organized. Changeover from the old exec. to the new exec. has gone extremely well. The Exec. has been meeting on a regular basis and we are currently on target with the Planning schedule.

Policy

I have drafted a plan to review all of the expired or expiring policies for the next year. At a rate of 4 per month, we will be able to be totally up to date with policy review at the end of the next 12 months. For April, executive has already reviewed 5 policies that will be presented at the next council meeting.

Health Plan

The contract has been reviewed by the lawyer and some small changes were made to the original contract and it is currently awaiting signatures and will be returned to Gallivan. We expect the plan should still be available to our members by September 2014.

Committee Work

I have just be elected to sit on the GFC – SAAC. My first meeting will be May 8th. To be placed or elected to committees takes time. I am currently awaiting my approval to be AU Board of Governors.

Pending Issues

Payables

Currently, payables packages are still going to Jason Nixon for review and signatures on cheques. I review all of the payables also and ask questions where appropriate. The change of signatories is currently underway with the bank and these responsibilities should be turned over to myself in the next month.

Meetings

Changeover Meeting – March 31st

AUSU Executive Meeting – April 2nd

AUSU Executive Meeting – April 17th

AUSU Executive Meeting with Alex Kondra – April 23rd

AUSU Executive Meeting – April 23rd

AUSU Finance Committee Meeting – April 30th

Hours

Timesheet and Compliance

Week Ending	Hours
April 6 th , 2014	31.25
April 13 th , 2014	32.00
April 20 th , 2014	27.25
April 27 th , 2014	29.50
TOTAL	120.00
AVERAGE PER WEEK	30.00

As of the writing of this report, I have reviewed the hours of the other executive members and have found they are meeting their expected hour requirements. As noted above, my 4 week average is 30.0 hours.