

AUGSA Council Meeting Minutes

February 21st, 2023 – 6:00pm MST

Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Executive Committee: Chris Edwards (President), Sarah Reid (VP Academic), Dennis Delgado (VP Operations & Finance)

Faculty of Business Representatives: Ian Chitwood, Gordon Chandler

Faculty of Health Disciplines Representatives: Kelly DeCoste, Sarah Atkinson, Sabrina Martin

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences Representative: Kangendra Bhandari, Angelo Delli Santi, Heather McGilvary

Faculty of Science and Technology: Rayees Khan, Russell Rupok

Staff: Meaghan Sullivan (Executive Director)

Regrets: Margaret Clappison, Charlie Salter, Jillian Nickel

		PRESENTER	ACTION
1.0	Call to Order	Chris Edwards	The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm MT.
2.0	Approval of Agenda	Chris Edwards	Motion 2.0 To approve the agenda as presented. Moved: Kelly DeCoste Seconded: Sabrina Martin Motion carried without opposition.
3.0	Approval of Previous Minutes	Chris Edwards	Motion 3.0 To approve the minutes of January 10, 2023 as presented. Moved: Rayees Khan Seconded: Sarah Atkinson Motion carried without opposition.
4.0	Reports and Presentations		Reports presented as distributed.
	4.1 President	Chris Edwards	January was a quiet month with the exception of there was unexpected change-over at the



			<p>University President. The President was released from their contract.</p> <p>The Council discussed concerns of hearing in the media and an AUSU publication that the University did not follow process or procedure with the change-over of the President.</p> <p>The incoming President, Dr. Alex Clarke, has made a good impression among the students, and has shown a lot of interest in engaging with the graduate student association and supporting graduate students. This is a great sign.</p>
	4.2 VP Academic	Sarah Reid	<p>The Awards Committee was able to have an emergent meeting this month to approve emergency bursaries for students in immediate financial need. The next bursary review takes place after the bursary deadline of March 15th.</p> <p>Sarah Reid was able to attend the scheduled meeting at Athabasca University this month including the FGS Faculty Council, Student Academic Appeals, Academic Excellence Awards, GFC, and met with Dr. Shawn Fraser, Dean of FGS, in discussion of graduate student needs and priorities.</p>
	4.3 VP Operations & Finance	Dennis Delgado	No report at this time.
5.0	Financial Reports	Dennis Delgado	No report at this time.
6.0	Council Policy Update	Chris Edwards	<p>The Council Policy Manual was developed this past couple of months and now has been presented to Council for review and approval. The Council Policy Manual was first reviewed by the Governance Committee.</p>



		<p>Chris Edwards explained that the new policy manual could be considered a good beginning with the flexibility to update it over the next few years as we fit into our new governance model.</p> <p>Meaghan Sullivan explained the Council Policy Manual is also the foundational work, whereas much more of the work referenced in this manual still needs to be done. Council understands that some of the mechanisms outlined in the new Council Policy Manual currently do not exist (i.e., Strategic Plan, Code of Conduct, Environmental policy, contracted HR resources, secretary for Council Meetings) and there will be a requirement for the Executive Director to begin re-writing and/or formatting pre-existing operational policies. The Council acknowledged that it will take the Executive Director at least the first year under the new governance structure to implement these objectives while maintaining operations and services. The Council agrees that the Executive Director has their support and that they understand these objectives will be the primary focus of establishing operations for at least the first year operating with the new governance model.</p> <p>Motion 6.0: To approve the council policy manual as presented. Moved: Khagendra Bhandari Seconded: Angelo Delli Santi Motion carried without opposition.</p>
7.0	Elections Update	The elections process is live. Nominations opened last Friday and will close this Friday at 4PM MT.



8.0	Committee Updates		No further committee updates.
9.0	Upcoming Events		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3MT: March 14th • Map the System: April 13th or 14th
10.0	Old Business		
11.0	New Business		
12.0	Other Business		
13.0	Adjournment		<p>Motion 11.0: To adjourn the meeting at 6:31 pm. Moved: Russell Rupok Seconded: Dennis Delgado Motion carried without opposition.</p>

Chris Edwards, President

Meaghan Sullivan, Executive Director

Date of Approval

