

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE — 2023-2024 #15

July 24, 2023

9:57 AM

ATTENDANCE

Christian Fotang	<i>President</i>
Chris Beasley	<i>Vice President (External)</i>
Pedro Almeida	<i>Vice President (Academic)</i>
Levi Flaman	<i>Vice President (Operations and Finance)</i>
Michael Griffiths	<i>Vice President (Student Life)</i>
Marc Dumouchel	<i>General Manager</i>
Jonathan Olfert	<i>Director of Research and Advocacy</i>

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee agenda as presented.
4/0/0 CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

GRIFFITHS/ALMEIDA MOVED TO approve the Executive Committee minutes from July 17,
2023 as presented.
3/0/1 CARRIED, BEASLEY abstaining.

REPORTS

PRESIDENT

- Spent the past week at CASA in Fredericton.
- Executives should be looking at finishing their Indigenous Canada MOOCs, costing out their Project Allocation plans, engaging with counterparts among CAUS and ISA, and preparing reports.

VICE PRESIDENT (ACADEMIC)

- SRA Summit Advisory Committee met and began planning the summit for late September or early October.
- Met with Chris Hackett who is leading the project around the new Academic Integrity Policy. Gave feedback throughout the draft.
- Met with ISSS over the first-class standing removal proposal.

VICE PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

- Spent the past week at CASA in Fredericton. CASA is a self-regulating system and will produce good advocacy this year.
- Met with Minister Sawhney, her chief of staff, and her senior policy advisor. One major takeaway is that she wants to focus on international student issues. Will need to work closely with the ISA to ensure an appropriate relationship and level of access.
- The Minister does not anticipate changing much in her first six months, focusing on her mandate letter and touring Alberta's campuses.
 - The letter includes a \$4M/year pledge for mental health expansion, but it is not clear what that means or how it is split up. It may be a token service funding expansion or a seat expansion for related programs.
 - It also includes a graduate retention grant that may have affordability impacts but is less efficient than up-front grants.
 - The letter also includes strengthening free speech reporting on campuses.
- Minister Fir's mandate letter includes significant items around SGBV and women in STEM.

VICE PRESIDENT (OPERATIONS AND FINANCE)

- To be reported on Thursday.

VICE PRESIDENT (STUDENT LIFE)

- An Executive has an opportunity to go to Augustana with the Campus Food Bank. (ALMEIDA will do so.)
- Had meetings on gender-neutral washrooms with Facilities and Operations.
- Had a Moderate Standard of Living meeting.

GENERAL MANAGER

- Working on theatre items.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY

- The replacement Students' Council gavel block has arrived, made by Wesley Havill, an Indigenous woodcarver. This is the first piece of physical Indigenous art owned by the UASU, which is progress toward an ARRC recommendation.

The story behind the bear's paw design: "Mukwa (the bear) is one of the clan members. Long ago their responsibilities were to defend their village. They became master strategists. While they secured the perimeter of the village they also learned about the plants and became healers with plant medicine."

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

NO ITEMS

ACTION ITEMS

Contingency Fund Allocation

- This proposal involves the replacement of essential radios for Facilities, Safewalk, and Conference and Events. The radios are over 10 years old and are now incompatible with the University's upgraded systems. The proposed allocation does not cover the full cost; other funding will be found elsewhere.

GRIFFITHS/BEASLEY MOVE TO allocate up to \$30,000 from the Contingency Reserve for the purpose of purchasing new communications hardware to meet University requirements.

5/0/0 CARRIED

DISCUSSION PERIOD

UASU Representative on ISA Council

- The ISA is requesting a UASU representative. Last year a Councilor served in this role, but this year the reduced number of Councilors has led to increased workload. The ISA Council meets frequently.
- The Executives discussed how this position should be filled, as Bylaw is largely silent on it.
- BEASLEY will take this assignment.

Substance Harms Prevention

- The Government of Canada provides free substance harm prevention posters. The UASU discussed distributing them among stakeholders.

Residential School Memorial

- There will be a planning committee for this Fall event. GRIFFITHS will see how ISU would like to be involved this year. The Executives discussed how to get

Councilors involved. The UASU's representation on the committee needs to be set up within the next week or two.

- FOTANG will sit on this committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM.