

Policy Committee

Date: Thursday December 7, 2023

Time: 6:00

In Person: SUB 6-06 and Online: Zoom

The University of Alberta and the University of Alberta Students' Union occupy Indigenous land in Amiskwacîswâskahikan (Beaver Hills House), on Treaty 6 territory. From time immemorial, the banks along the river valley have been known as the Pehonan, a meeting place for the nêhiyawak (Cree), the Niitsítapi (Blackfoot), Métis, Dënesųliné (Dene), Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and others. The University, the Students' Union and much of the city are located on the unlawfully stolen land of the forcibly removed Papaschase Cree.

We acknowledge that sharing this land gives each of us the responsibility to research the historic contexts of Treaty 6, to reflect on our personal relationships to the land, the Nations we've named, and to our roles in upholding justice on this territory. Since they began, the Students' Union and the University have benefited from historic and ongoing dispossession of land and resources from Indigenous Peoples. As a result, it is our responsibility to seek the restitution of this land and its resources. Finally, we seek to do better by working to make our learning, research, and governance align with the histories, languages, teachings, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples in the land presently occupied by the Canadian state.

We encourage critical reflection by asking the following question. In relation to the territory on which you are situated, what role do you play in strengthening the resistance and resurgence of Indigenous students within your communities?

ATTENDANCE

NAME	PROXY	PRESENT
Pedro Almeida		Υ
Chris Beasley		Υ
Michael Griffiths		Υ
Adrian Lam		Υ
Precious Majekodunmi (Chair)		Υ
Mason Pich		N
Nathan Thiessen		Υ
Levi Flaman		Υ
Abdul Abbasi		N
Courtney Graham		N/A
Aseel Atia		N/A

MINUTES (PC 2023-13-07)

2023-12/1 INTRODUCTION

2023-12/1a Call to Order(5 min)

MAJEKODUNMI called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

• Land Acknowledgement

2023-12/1b Approval of Agenda (1 min)

LAM/GRIFFITHS MOVE TO approve the agenda CARRIED

2023-12/1c Approval of previous meeting minutes TABLED

2023-12/1d Chair's Business (10 mins)

Winter Semester Course of Action Review

MAJEKODUNMI: Pulled up the working plan for next semester's actions. Goal will be to finish most of the policies around April. From July-September, the Student Spaces, Mental Health, Quality Academics, Financial Aid and Scholarships, and the Augustana policies have been worked on by council.

LAM: Wants to have the Augustana First Policies to be approved in the committee so it can be voted on during Students' Council.

MAJEKODUNMI: Will be working on three policies next semester: the Academic Materials, Augustana, and TRC policies. First drafts will be due on January 30. First Principles to be completed by February 15 and the second draft on March 7. Second Principles will be due on March 30.

2023-12/2 COMMITTEE BUSINESS (30 min)

• Mental Health Policy update

LAM: In limbo until the council makes a decision.

MAJEKODUNMI: The First Principles have been TABLED. Encourages everyone to work on the facts section.

• Student Financial Aid and Scholarships update

ALMEIDA: Quality Academics First Principles have been completed. The hope is to set time aside so that the Second Principles can also be completed in due time.

Augustana Policy update

GRIFFITHS: Thinks that the current draft looks good.

MAJEKODUNMI: Thinks "perspectives" would be a better word than "opinions".

LAM: Agrees and changes it.

THEISSEN/BEASLEY MOVE TO approve the draft of the Augustana Policy First Principles. APPROVED

2023-12/3 QUESTION/DISCUSSION PERIOD(10 min)

2023-12/4a Action Items / To-Do List

2023-12/4b Next Scheduled Meeting: January 2024 @ 6pm

2023-12/5 Adjournment

MAJEKODUNMI adjourned the meeting at 6:37 PM