

**Student Affairs Committee**  
**April 23, 2026 at 3pm – 5pm**  
**University Boardroom A341**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

|                  |                                                                     |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Phil Warsaba     | Vice-President, Students, CHAIR                                     |
| Meekena Erkin    | Student Representative, VICE-CHAIR                                  |
| Chris Rogerson   | Associate Vice-President, Student Experience and Success            |
| Michelle LoGullo | President, Mount Royal Staff Association (virtually)                |
| Kari Roberts     | Academic Staff Member (Arts)                                        |
| Alysia Wright    | Academic Staff Member (Health, Community and Education) (virtually) |
| Jian Huang       | Academic Staff Member (Science and Technology)                      |
| Sara Sharun      | Academic Staff Member (University Library)                          |
| Tori McMillan    | Iniskim Centre Representative                                       |
| Nicky Renault    | Student Affairs Representative                                      |
| Noor Bata        | Student Representative                                              |
| Anita Surujbally | Student Representative                                              |

Resources

|                   |                                                            |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Geri Lynn Gouglas | Registrarial Designate                                     |
| Miranda Diakiw    | Designate for Executive Director, Development              |
| Kathy Homer       | Assistant University Secretary, Board, RECORDING SECRETARY |

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

|                     |                                                                    |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Meagan Bowler       | Deans' Council Representative                                      |
| Irina Dovbischuk    | Academic Staff Member (Business, Communication Studies & Aviation) |
| Christina Lovestone | Continuing Education Representative                                |

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00PM.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Agenda for the April 23, 2026 Student Affairs Committee meeting be approved.

***Motion carried***

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

2.1. Minutes from March 12, 2026

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Minutes of the March 12, 2026 Student Affairs Committee meeting be approved.

***Motion carried***

- 2.2. Business Arising from the Minutes  
There was no business arising from the minutes.

**3. Student Awards Created from March 6 – April 23, 2026**

- 3.1. Summary Listing of New Awards  
Received for information.

- 3.2. New Awards Requiring SAC Approval

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve the new awards created from March 6-April 23, 2026:

- Jesse Heberton Outdoor Leadership Award
- Kelly Bartley Memorial Award
- TEI Calgary Future Tax Leaders Award-with wording to be amended

Discussion:

- The timeline for the Kelly Bartley Memorial Award was reviewed. It was confirmed that the award will be disbursed in Fall 2026, following assessment by the Faculty.
- An update to the TEI Calgary Future Tax item was identified. The reference to the “MRU tax clinic” will be corrected to “SAMRU tax clinic.” This change will be made accordingly.

***Motion carried***

- 3.3. Existing Awards Requiring SAC Approval

Discussion:

- Regarding the Métis Scholar Award criteria, the description will be revised from “awarded to a full-time Indigenous student” to “awarded to a full-time Métis student,” ensuring the correct use of the accent in “Métis” throughout.

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve revisions to the Métis Scholar Award with an amendment to the wording as discussed.

***Motion carried.***

Discussion:

- The Theatre Arts Faculty Scholarship was discussed.
- Clarification is required on eligibility, specifically whether the award, while part of the Conservatory, is limited to Conservatory students only.
- It was noted that the program references “student”; the scholarship is intended to be available to both youth and adult participants.

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve revisions to the Theatre Arts Faculty Scholarship.

***Motion carried.***

## 3.4. New Awards Provisionally Approved by the Office of the Registrar

## Discussion:

- The timing of the first disbursement of the David Parker Scholarship in Journalism and Media was discussed.
- The scholarship title was reviewed and confirmed to be “David Parker Scholarship in Journalism and **Digital** Media.” Updates will be made accordingly.

***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve the new awards provisionally approved by the Office of the Registrar created from March 6-April 23, 2026:

- Community Builder's Circle Scholarship
- David Parker Scholarship in Journalism and Digital Media (title amended)

***Motion carried***

## 3.5. Existing Awards Provisionally Approved by the Office of the Registrar

## Discussion:

Linda Singleton Memorial Scholarship

- The Linda Singleton Memorial Scholarship was discussed. A significant increase in the academic requirement, from a GPA of 2.0 to 3.5, was noted. The donor and gift agreement were reviewed and confirmed to reflect the donor’s intent.
- Clarification was sought on how a 3.5 GPA would be calculated at the course level.
- It was discussed whether the 3.5 requirement applies to each individual course or the overall average.
- Concerns were raised that this requirement could lead to grade appeals.
- A suggestion was made to use percentage grades; however, it was noted that the Registrar’s Office records only letter grades. The Development Office will work to simplify the criteria using letter grade indicators.
- A recommendation was made to remove the requirement stating “with no individual grade less than 3.5” and replace it with “with no individual grade less than 2.0.”
- It was noted that further clarification of the donor’s intent is needed, as the criteria have shifted from “good standing” to a higher standard of “academic excellence.”
- G. Gouglas will connect with M. Diakiw to continue the discussion.
- This item is deferred and will be brought back as business arising at a future (fall) meeting.

Dr. Leona Paterson Memorial Scholarship in Speech Arts

- The Dr. Leona Paterson Memorial Scholarship in Speech Arts was discussed.

- Questions were raised regarding the reference to the Royal Conservatory of Music examination syllabus and whether this framework appropriately applies to speech arts and drama, as it is traditionally associated with music (vocal or instrumental levels).
- Concerns were expressed that the current wording could unintentionally restrict eligibility or exclude qualified applicants.
- It was agreed that further clarification is needed, and the matter will be taken back to the instructor for discussion.
- This item is deferred and will be brought back as business arising at a future (fall) meeting.

#### Marion Knight Memorial Scholarship

- It was noted that the Marion Knight Memorial Scholarship uses the same application form as the Dr. Leona Paterson Memorial Scholarship in Speech Arts, as the applicant pool overlaps.

#### ***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve revisions to the existing awards provisionally approved by the Office of the Registrar created from March 6-April 23, 2026:

- Canadian Muslims for Peace and Justice Award
- Marion Knight Memorial Scholarship
- Tom and Diane Eason Bursary in Nursing

#### ***Motion carried***

### 3.6. Awards with Minor Changes Provisionally Approved by the Office of the Registrar

Discussion:

Minor edits were made across multiple awards, including the removal of the word “the” from award titles to improve consistency and support proper alphabetization.

#### ***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee approve the awards with minor changes provisionally approved by the Office of the Registrar created from March 6-April 23, 2026 as listed in the meeting package.

#### ***Motion carried***

## 4. Draft Guidelines for AI Use in the Classroom at MRU

Nicky Renault, Vice-Chair of the Generative Artificial Intelligence in Teaching and Learning (AI) Working Group, provided an overview of the draft Guidelines for AI Use in the Classroom. Members were asked to provide feedback.

Discussion:

- It was noted that multiple AI-related initiatives are underway, including an institutional AI Steering Committee that has developed an institutional framework.

- The Guidelines for AI Use in the Classroom specifically address AI use in teaching and learning, with future guidance anticipated at the departmental level.
- The guidelines are being structured to support clarity and consistency in classroom application and use tables for ease of understanding for both faculty and students.
- A series of communications will be sent to faculty, staff and students to support the rollout of AI use across campus.
- Members expressed appreciation for the balanced approach reflected in the guidelines.
- It was emphasized that the guidelines are intended to be a living document and will not be formalized as policy. A dedicated AI website will be launched and maintained to support ongoing updates and resources.
- The guidelines reference the use of institutionally supported AI tools, specifically Gemini. It was noted that access will soon be enabled for all students, staff, and faculty, with communications forthcoming to outline availability and resources.
- Questions were raised regarding the use of institutionally approved AI tools when handling sensitive or private data, including whether a list of approved tools will be provided and if additional tools (e.g., Claude) may be supported in the future.
- It was clarified that the guiding framework uses mandatory language (“must”) when referring to approved tools such as Gemini and NotebookLM when handling sensitive and private data. ITS will implement a process for requesting approval of additional AI tools.
- Members were encouraged to provide any additional feedback directly to N. Renault.

## 5. SAC Committee Charter Review

The SAC Committee Charter was reviewed and the following Charter changes were identified:

- With the implementation of the new Student Accommodations Policy, it was noted that an annual report will be developed. Sections 4.1 and 4.2 were discussed, and members considered whether annual reporting or plans should be incorporated into the Charter.
- Within the “Student Awards” section, hearing student appeals of awards should be captured.
- Section 4.5 wording should be changed to “misconduct” vs. “conduct, discipline and appeals.”
- Section 4.6 was discussed and it was confirmed that SAC does appoint representatives to serve on Student Appeals Committees and that reappointments will be coming.
- Sections 4.6 and 6.2, which reference ensuring that a training program is delivered to members, were discussed. Members considered whether the Committee should have oversight of the training program or if its role should be limited to appointing representatives to the Student Appeals Committee. Members expressed a preference that the Committee’s role be limited to the appointment of members only.

The Chair noted that the proposed changes to the Charter will return to SAC for review in the fall, then proceed to GFC EC and GFC for approval.

### ***Moved and seconded:***

**THAT** the Student Affairs Committee recommend the changes to the Charter, as discussed, for recommendation to GFC in October 2026.

***Motion carried.***

**6. Draft SAC 2025-26 Annual Report**

The draft SAC 2025-26 Annual Report was reviewed, and the Chair noted a bullet point will be added regarding changes to the Charter. The Chair will finalize the report and circulate it to members by email for feedback in advance of submission to the GFC May meeting.

**7. Committee Chair Report**

A copy of the previous Committee Chair's Report to GFC was provided for information.

**8. For Information**

The following item was provided for information:

8.1. Draft SAC Membership List 2026-27

**9. New Business**

There was no new business.

**10. Adjournment 3:58PM**