

MINUTES

January 24, 2022

3:00 – 5:00 PM

Present: Phil Warsaba, Chair, Vice-Provost & Associate Vice-President, Students
Yasmin Ahmed, Vice-Chair, Student Representative
Chris Rogerson, Executive Director, Student Affairs
Denise Chengler, Academic Staff Member - Business and Communication Studies
Michelle LoGullo, President, MRSA, Ex Officio
Marty Clark, Academic Staff Member - Health, Community and Education
Steve Kootenay-Jobin, Iniskim Centre Representative
Brian Nichols, Academic Staff Member - Arts
Melanie Rathburn, Academic Staff Member - Science and Technology
Sara Sharun, Academic Staff Member - University Library
Cynthia Gallop, Academic Staff Member - Teaching and Learning
Bob Lambert, Student Affairs
Joseph Nguyen, Student Representative
Spirit River Striped Wolf, Student Representative
Geri Lynn Gouglas, Registrar (Registrarial Designate)
Rebecca Bowman, Designate for Executive Director, Development (Resource)
Angela Spinner, Recording Secretary

Regrets: Meagan Bowler, Deans' Council Representative

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

2.0 Membership Update

The chair has appointed Bob Lambert to the vacated Student Affairs representative role.

3.0 Approval of the Agenda for January 24, 2022

Moved by Denise/Chris

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the January 24, 2022 agenda as distributed.

Carried.

**4.0 Approval of the Student Affairs Committee Minutes for November 25, 2021
[attachment]**

Moved by Melanie/Marty

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the November 25, 2021 minutes as distributed.

Carried.

**5.0 Business Arising from the Student Affairs Committee Minutes of
November 25, 2021**

5.1 Participation on Award Selection Committees

In the November meeting, various individuals agreed to serve on Awards Selection Committees but there were some outstanding vacancies that still needed to be filled. The Registrar delivered an email to committee members requesting additional volunteers.

The following members were nominated to vacant roles: Brian Nichols for the Centennial Gold Medal committee and Sarah Sharun for the President's selection committee. The student representatives will be provided by SAMRU and sent to the Registrar.

6.0 New Business

- 6.1 Student Awards Appeal [to be distributed in the meeting]

Moved by Joseph/Melanie

THAT additional information be provided by the student in support of their appeal.

Carried.

- 6.2 Summary Listing of New Awards Created from November 23, 2021 – January 24, 2022 [attachment]

This document was distributed for information.

- 6.3 New Awards Requiring SAC Approval from November 23, 2021 – January 24, 2022 [attachment]

Moved by Melanie/Steve

THAT the Calgary Flames Hockey Scholarship for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion be approved.

Carried.

Moved by Sara/Marty

THAT the JR Smith Scholarship for Athletic Therapy be approved.

Carried.

Moved by Brian/Sara

THAT the Andrew Nguyen Memorial Bursary be approved.

Discussion:

New bursaries generally do not include extracurricular activities. It was understood that Andrew was a leader in the MRU community and it was felt that this award should reflect qualities of community leadership and community service. The Development representative noted that the most important criteria from the perspective of the donor was financial need and the chair pointed out that the preferences in the current criteria already serve to restrict the award to a smaller pool of potential applicants.

The executive director questioned the wording for gender and observed that previous awards with gender preferences included language pertaining to non-binary students. The chair recommended updating the criteria to "a student who identifies as male or non-binary".

The committee subsequently discussed the potential size of the applicant pool, the main purpose of the award, and the benefits and disadvantages of additional criteria, such as an essay.

The chair summarized the discussion by noting the following:

- Financial need is the most important criteria to the committee and from the perspective of the donor.
- Adding in academic excellence or academic achievement will not serve to restrict the pool of applicants, as Nursing students are generally admitted with high GPAs.
- Giving preference to a male or non-binary student is important due to the underrepresentation of individuals who identify as male or non-binary in the Nursing program.

There were a number of committee members who felt strongly about retaining the demonstration of community service or community leadership given the individual the award is intended to honour.

A motion to amend the award to revise the language pertaining to gender and to remove the extracurricular requirements was put forward. The chair was asked to conduct two separate votes to amend the award. The motion to amend the language pertaining to gender was carried unanimously. The motion to amend the award by removing the extracurricular criteria was also carried with a minority number of votes against.

Carried, with the removal of extracurricular criteria and with the specified amendment of language pertaining to gender.

6.4 New and Existing Awards Provisionally Approved by the Office of the Registrar from November 23, 2021 – January 24, 2022 [attachment]

The Margaret Stephens Horn Scholarship was provided for information and not for approval.

Motion by Melanie/Bob

THAT the awards provisionally approved by the Office of the Registrar with revisions from November 23, 2021 to January 24, 2022 be approved by the Student Affairs Committee.

Carried.

6.5 Student Conduct and Sexualized Violence Policy Timelines

The executive director, student affairs delivered a presentation to the committee on consultation and approval timelines. The presentation slides will be added to the committee Google drive.

A survey is being sent to staff/faculty/students this week to help guide the consultation process. Discussion with deans and chairs will also be key throughout this process as well as conversations with Legal Services.

It is the executive director's intent to have the student conduct policy approved by the end of the academic year cycle for GFC and the Board of Governors. The community consultation will be March 23, leaving 2 weeks to review the feedback and to submit a final draft through to the approval stage.

PEC has to review the draft prior to the community consultation. This committee will be consulted for approval in April and, if agreed, the policy will be submitted to GFC in May, followed by submission to the BOG.

To comply with the PSLA, we require an appeals policy and that policy is subject to the authority of the Board. We will be seeking delegation of authority.

7.0 Adjournment

Motion by Steve/Denise

That the January 24, 2022 meeting of the Student Affairs Committee be adjourned at 4:54PM.