

STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

May 9, 2022

VIRTUAL

PRESENT:

Phil Warsaba	Chair, Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President, Students
Brian Nichols	Academic Staff Member, Arts
Melanie Rathburn	Academic Staff Member, Science and Technology
Sara Sharun	Academic Staff Member, University Library
Marty Clark	Academic Staff Member, Health, Community and Education
Joseph Nguyen	Student Representative
Yasmin Ahmed	Vice-Chair, Student Representative
Steve Kootenay-Jobin	Iniskim Centre Representative
Bob Lambert	Student Affairs Representative
Chris Rogerson	Executive Director, Student Affairs

REGRETS:

Meagan Bowler	Deans' Council Representative
Denise Chenger	Academic Staff Member, Business and Communication Studies
Cynthia Gallop	Academic Staff Member, Teaching and Learning
Michelle LoGullo	President MRSA, Ex Officio
Spirit River Striped Wolf	Student Representative

RESOURCES:

Miranda Diakiw	Manager, Annual Giving (Executive Director Development Designate)
Geri Lynn Gouglas	Registrar (Registrarial Designate)
Kathy Homer	Assistant University Secretary, Board, Recording Secretary

The meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m. and the Chair confirmed quorum.

1.0 Land Acknowledgement

2.0 Approval of the Agenda for May 9, 2022

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the May 9, 2022 agenda as distributed.

Carried.

3.0 Approval of the Student Affairs Committee Minutes for March 21, 2022 [attachment]

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the April 11, 2022 minutes as distributed.

Carried.

4.0 Business Arising from the Student Affairs Committee Minutes of April 11, 2022

4.1 Broadening of the Equity-Deserving Categories in the Awards Application

Proposed wording for the awards application questions to provide students with the option to self-identify with an equity-deserving group was provided in the meeting package for discussion. The Chair reviewed some of the changes made to the document and provided statistics previously requested by the Committee. An item not covered was terminology around Canadian Indigenous

students, which could be broadened. The process could pose challenges, but will be revisited. It was further explained that the terms used are those currently used within the system. A future topic to be discussed is gender.

Follow up actions as a result of the discussion:

- The first question will be updated for consistency. The language will be changed from “Do you have...” to “Do you identify as...”
- Second part to that question, “Accessibility Services” will be updated to “Mount Royal’s Access and Inclusion Services”
- It was confirmed that additional documentation may be required for the general application pool
- To ensure students are applying under the correct titles, examples could be provided. For the Metis, Indigenous and Inuit titles, work will be done with Iniskim to broaden the examples in this area
- A category not included was “other” or a self-identified write-in area- for all students who are not represented. Explanation was provided for why this was left out. A tick box could be included to state, “I do not see myself identified in the categories above”. This topic will be brought back for further discussion
- “Colombians” is misspelled
- “Self-identify as one or more” will be added/emphasized in the top section

With an eye to future revisions, the Committee agreed with the revisions proposed to the application questions.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Student Conduct Policies for Approval and Information

The Student Affairs Committee received the suite of Student Conduct Policies and Procedures for recommendation to the General Faculties Council.

Opening remarks provided the following background information:

- Within the *Post-secondary Learning Act*, the Board of Governors has oversight of student appeals. The Board’s Governance and Nominating Committee has recommended the Student Appeals Policy and Procedures be approved by the Board at the May meeting.
- The Student Awards Committee was presented with the two codes for recommendation to GFC with the Appeals Policy and Procedures provided for information.
- Revisions were required to ensure legal and legislative compliance, alignment with the University’s policy framework, and to align with administrative best practices.

Follow up actions as a result of the discussion:

- Concern was expressed regarding the role of the Associate Dean in requiring a student to discontinue an academic activity; this should be an administrative role or moved to the University level.
 - This feedback has not been received from other Associated Deans
 - For procedural fairness, this needs to be kept at the Faculty level
 - “or designate, where appropriate” could be added to resolve the concern

This point will be followed up and if a change is made, it will be made before going to GFC.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee recommend to General Faculties Council the approval of the following suite of Student Conduct Policies and Procedures to replace the existing Code of Student Conduct Policy:

1. Code of Student Community Standards Policy & Code of Student Community Standards Procedures
2. Code of Student Academic Integrity Policy & Code of Student Academic Integrity Procedures

Carried.

5.2 Summary Listing of New Awards Created from April 11, 2022 to May 9, 2022

The summary listing of new awards was provided to the Committee for information.

5.3 New Awards Requiring SAC Approval from April 11, 2022 to May 9, 2022

The Committee considered the “Excellence in Leadership Award” that was provided within the meeting package.

The Committee discussed the award and noted that a significant amount of work is required for a small dollar value, which in turn creates an administrative burden. Clarity is required regarding eligibility for the award. Background information was provided but the Committee felt further work is required to fine tune the process. The award is intended to be disbursed in January 2023. As a result, the Committee decided to defer the motion to the next meeting and it would be brought back as “Business Arising from the Minutes.”

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the Excellence in Leadership award.

Deferred to the next meeting.

5.4 Existing Awards Requiring SAC Approval from April 11, 2022 to May 9, 2022

The Committee was referred to the “MRU Emergency Bursary” that was provided in the meeting package for approval.

The changes to the bursary were presented. The bursary maximum has increased from \$750 per student to \$1500 per student, as the award is now part of an endowed pool that generates increased funding. It was reported that there is an increase in the number of students who have applied for emergency bursaries.

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee approve the changes to the MRU Emergency Bursary.

Carried.

5.5 Draft Student Affairs Committee Annual Report 2021- 2022

The draft 2021-22 Student Affairs Committee Annual Report for General Faculties Council was submitted by the Chair for comment and feedback.

6.0 Adjournment

Moved and seconded:

THAT the Student Affairs Committee meeting be adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Carried.