

Annual General Meeting

Minutes for Thursday, November 17, 2005

Present: Brent Thoma (Chair), Sarah Connor (VP Student Issues), Michael Kowalsky (VP External Affairs), Crystel Knihniski (General Manager), Tara Faris (Development & Communications Coordinator), Kendra Wilkie (Confidential Secretary), Amy Yeager (Student Services Coordinator), Gavin Gardiner (President), Brett Campbell (VP Operations & Finance), Evan Cole (VP Academic Affairs)

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m.

2. Call for Quorum

Quorum was present

3. Adoption of the Agenda

Move to adopt the agenda

AGM Motion01: Benjamin David/Brad Flavell Carried.

4. President's Report

President Gardiner stated that the Tuition Fee Freeze campaign was conducted by the USSU and was successful on March 23rd. The Provincial Government stated they would be freezing tuition in Saskatchewan for the first time since ???, which would save Saskatchewan Students \$6.7M dollars. The government also stated they would conduct a Student Financial Assistance review, which is still on-going; there was to be an Interim Report released in Mid-October; however, it has not yet been released. The government has promised they would release the report in 2006. Bill C48, which was 1.5 Billion dollars in new money was to be spent on the tuition freeze campaign and reducing student debt which is still up in the air as to how this money will be spent. Premier Lorne Calvert (Premier) and Finance Minister Ralph Goodale reached an agreement in May 2005 and worked out a deal for Saskatchewan of \$200 M over the next 5 years, which would dedicate \$120M to PSE. The USSU has 5 Executive members this year and this is going well; the new position is extremely important. There was a Referendum on the Canadian Federation of Students held in early October. Over 18% of students came out to vote of the 3500 students who voted approximately 1900 voted yes and 1500 voted no. The USSU is looking for a new General Manager. Crystel Knihniski, Acting General Manager is leaving us shortly and I would like to thank her for her years of dedication to the USSU.

5. Auditor's Report

5.1 Presentation of Audited Financial Statements

Move to grant Crystel Knihniski Speaking Rights.

AGM Motion02: Campbell/ Nicholas Ansaldo Carried.

Crystal Knihniski stated that there is a copy of the Auditor's Report in the AGM package and it states everything is okay with the accounting. She stated she was not going to go through the financial statements unless anyone has any questions. If you have questions in the future you can also contact the VP Operations and Finance.

5.2 Financial Statement Resolution

Move to accept KPMG Report for Financial Statements.

AGM Motion03: Campbell/Alice Collins Carried.

5.3 Auditing Firm Resolution

Move to keep KPMG as auditors.

AGM Motion04: Campbell/Jeanine Schultz Carried.

6. Proposed Bylaw Amendments

6.1 Proposed Amendment to Article 1 – (Proposed Amendment #1, by Sarah Connor)

Move to amend Bylaw 1, Article 1 – (iv) to include “Sustainability” means the demonstration of socially, economically, and environmentally responsible behavior that strives to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

AGM Motion05: Connor/Terra Lennox-Zepp Carried.

Jade Buchanan asked for clarification.

VP Connor stated that this amendment is just to include the definition of sustainability.

6.2 Proposed Amendment to Article 1 – (Proposed Amendment #2, by Evan Cole)

Move to amend Bylaw 1, Article 6 – (v) to include “Academic Advocacy Officer; and.”

AGM Motion06: Cole/Brad Flavell Carried.

VP Cole stated that the Academic Advocacy Officer works very close to the VP Academic Affairs. The Academic Advocacy Officer has more contact with students than the VP Academic Affairs. He would be able to bring trends and more information to the board. The board made a recommendation that Academic Advocacy Officer be a part of the Academic Affairs Board.

6.3 Proposed Amendment to Article 6 – (Proposed Amendment #3, by Sarah Connor)

Move to amend Bylaw 1, Article 6 – (g) to include “Sustainability Board.”

g) Sustainability Board.

The Sustainability Board shall be composed of the following members:

- (i) Vice-President (Student Issues) as chair;
- (ii) Vice-President (Operations and Finance) as vice-chair;
- (iii) Three (3) councilors elected by University Students' Council;
- (iv) Three (3) students-at-large appointed by the University Students' Council Appointments Board; and
- (v) President, as ex-officio member

The Sustainability Board shall be responsible for:

- (i) Ensuring the sustainability of USSU operations through analysis of current and potential business practices and partners;
- (ii) The implementation of operational policies as requested by University Students' Council.

AGM Motion07: Connor/Lennox-Zepp Carried.

VP Connor stated the Sustainability Board would replace the current Adhoc Environmental Responsibility Board. The Sustainability Board would be responsible for ensuring the sustainability of the USSU operations and the implementation of operational policies as requested by USC.

Blayne Coffin asked if other students would have to be elected or is it in place.

VP Connor stated ideally it would be the same students; however, that would be up to the Environmental Responsibility Board and USC.

Benjamin David asked if the Sustainability Board looked after by the Operations and Finance.

VP Campbell stated the VP Operations & Finance would sit, as Vice-Chair and VP Student Issues would be the chair. He stated VP Student Issues has been the person bringing the issues forward.

President Gardiner stated that this would not take away authority from the VP Operations & Finance; it does not step on any toes.

7. Proposed Constitutional Amendments

7.1 Proposed Amendment to Article 1 – (Proposed Amendment #1 by Andrew Trapp)

VP Cole stated that Andrew Trapp is not present to move the motion.

Chair Thoma asked if anyone would move this amendment.

7.2 Proposed Amendment to Article 2 – (Proposed Amendment #2 by Andrew Trapp)

No one would make a motion on his behalf.

8. Questions and Comments

Jade Buchanan asked VP Campbell about the types of Louis' promotions.

VP Campbell ???

Brad Flavell asked if there are any reports on the success of the cheap drink nights.

VP Campbell stated it went very well at the start but it seems to have slowed down. He stated that if anyone has any suggestions they should bring them forward.

Nicholas Ansaldo asked VP Kowalsky how talks have been going with the Minister of Education regarding the tuition freeze.

VP Kowalsky stated they have had one meeting so far and that meeting was in the summer. There is another meeting tomorrow in Regina.

President Gardiner stated he could answer a bit more because he sits on the Steering Committee for Financial Review and Research Committee. This committee has met three times. They met once in the summer, once in the fall and round of consultations in the summer. There was a draft terms of reference for review and nothing has been sent out since, which is a huge concern. He is not sure whether they have chosen to do that internally. The USSU and URSU have both been critical of the provincial government. He stated that we are still waiting on this.

Nicholas Ansaldo asked if they have kept the university in the dark.

President Gardiner stated that the consultations are likely between the Administration and Department of ???. The students are the ones cut out.

Terra Lennox-Zepp asked VP Cole what stage your review of the deferred and supplemental exams are at.

VP Cole noted that he was not looking after that. Chad Klippenstein, a student representative on the Academic Program Community on the university council and the survey he sent out was to obtain ???

Mark Taylor asked when the meeting time changed.

President Gardiner stated he would take responsibility for the email with the incorrect time on it.

VP Connor stated it was also incorrect on Now-Up-To-Date.

VP Cole noted that all posters stated the meeting time was 4 p.m. the only thing that changed was the room number.

Blayne Coffin stated that it is hard for students to attend meetings scheduled for 4 p.m.

President Gardiner stated that meetings scheduled for 4 p.m. are far more accessible because there are more people on campus. This has been discussed in the past and that is the reason it is earlier than council.

Drew Dwernychuk asked if student organizations could advertise on the plasma screens.

VP Campbell stated student organizations can advertise on the plasma screens and they could find more information on our website.

Nicholas Ansaldo ???

Move to grant Tara Faris, USSU Development and Communications Coordinator speaking rights.

AGM Motion08: Campbell/Nicholas Ansaldo Carried.

Tara Faris stated plasma screens are used on a first come first serve basis. There are currently four or five off campus groups using them. They run in sequence and the cost for a 15 second ad is \$50/week for on campus groups.

Nicholas Ansaldo asked how \$50 week was determined. He stated it seems expensive.

Tara Faris noted last year's Operations and Finance Board determined this price. She stated that off-campus commercial groups would pay \$500 for the same ad.

Jade Buchanan asked why it is not free for campus groups.

VP Campbell stated it could be free if you want but it is at the discretion of the Operations and Finance Board.

Benjamin David asked how much the plasma screens cost and how much money has been made off the plasma screens.

Tara Faris noted the first two plasmas purchased cost \$4000 each and the last screen purchased was \$2500. Ad sales are progressing and we have made approximately \$1000 back.

VP Campbell asked what the estimated lifespan of a plasma screen.

Tara Faris stated it is estimated to be 5 years before they start to deteriorate.

Nicholas Ansaldo stated it is not making a profit. Plasma screens are a great idea but the cost should be cheaper for student groups.

VP Cole stated student groups are eligible to apply for funding through the USSU. He stated it could be free for student groups through the funding program.

Nicholas Ansaldo suggested Louis' get used as a bartending school.

VP Campbell stated that should be directed to the Operations and Finance Board and then it could go to USC.

Jade Buchanan asked about the Food Policy on campus. He asked where to go to get information on this.

VP Cole stated campus groups don't prepare the food they just serve it.

VP Connor stated that they sell pizza in her groups and she would try finding more information on this topic.

VP Kowalsky stated that during International Week there are food sales in the tunnel and should inquire at the International Students' Office.

Tara Faris stated she coordinates the sales in the Arts Tunnel. The proper process is to fill out an application through the City of Saskatoon for a Temporary Food Service Permit. Hand washing facilities are mandatory which makes things more difficult to obtain the proper permit. The City Health Inspector generally looks the other way regarding campus temporary service activities such as pizza sales, bake sales, etc. are not a huge concern; liability is on the student group.

Alex Korshever asked what the USSU policy on handing out flyers in the tunnel.

VP Campbell noted this should be brought up at a council meeting then the board could look into creating a policy.

Benjamin David stated that distribution of all these flyers goes against the sustainability issue.

Tara Faris stated that the USSU does have a Distribution Policy that states where and how flyers can be distributed in Place Riel.

10. Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

AGM Motion08: Benjamin David/Jade Buchanan

Carried.