

Council Meeting - June 20, 2023 – 6:00pm MT
Microsoft Teams

Present:

Russell Rupok	Chair	Voting Member
Brittany Hollett	Vice-Chair	Voting Member
Jason Kauenhofen	Council Member	Voting Member
Skyler Todd	Council Member	Voting Member
Kyra Johnston	Council Member	Voting Member
Lindsay McNena	Council Member	Voting Member
Khagendra Bhandari	Council Member	Voting Member
Rayees Kahan	Council Member	Voting Member
Meaghan Sullivan	Executive Director	Non-Voting

Regrets:

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Agenda Item

1.0 Call to Order:

R. Rupok called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

2.0 Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories:

R. Rupok gave the Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories.

3.0 Conflict of Interest Check:

R. Rupok reminded the Council the importance of declaring any real or perceived conflict of interest. No conflicts were declared.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda:

Motion:

To approve the agenda as presented.

**R. Khan/L. McNena
8-0-0
Motion Carries**

The motion was approved by general consent.

5.0 Adotion of Previous Minutes:

5.1 Regular Minutes of the Council from May 9, 2023.

Motion:

To approve the minutes as circulated.

K. Bhandari/J. Kauenhofen



**8-0-0
Motion Carries**

The motion was approved by general consent.

6.0 Required Approvals:

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

7.0 Items for Discussion:

R. Rupok expressed the desire to approach the governance objectives as a team. L. McNena stated her understanding of the governance model is that Council acts a whole and should develop a plan together on what governance work they need to do, emphasizing the importance of developing Global Ends. The Council agreed governance objectives should be approached collectively as a Council. The group discussed three governance objectives: developing the Ends, a Financial Conditions policy, and conducting a general review late in the elected term.

L. McNena and B. Hollett suggested a separate meeting to develop a workplan would be helpful. The objectives and timelines will come more naturally once the group has time to review what the workload entails. J. Kauenhofen suggested a meeting in July to put together the workplan, develop tasks and assign resources. M. Sullivan will send out a meeting invite for July 11th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the development of the workplan.

R. Rupok requested M. Sullivan to send an example Financial Conditions policy and Global Ends policies to all Council Members. L. McNena requested R. Rupok to add everyone to a working SharePoint site so everyone can participate freely in the review and development of governance objectives.

7.1 Ends

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

7.2 Executive Limitations

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

7.3 Governance Process

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

7.4 Board-Executive Director Relationship

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

8.0 Ownership Linkage:

R. Rupok explained to the Council that this is where they would discuss their monthly reports and discuss future ownership linkage activities.

J. Kauenhofen shared that upon attendance at the first month of student representation meetings, faculty agenda packets are extensive and a treasure trove of information. Scheduling time to review is important.

S. Todd shared their experience attending convocation on behalf of AUGSA. It was a great event but the booth was in a dark corner so finding a booth location next year that



has more light would be better. R. Khan also attended the event on behalf of AUGSA and explained the booth was not in the path of traffic indicating that attendees would need to go out of their way to find the AUGSA exhibition booth. Nevertheless, S. Todd and R. Khan were able to speak with many attendees and hand out AUGSA marketing materials.

K. Johnston explained she appreciated reviewing the Governor General Gold Medal award applications this past month and participating in selecting the potential recipient.

L. McNena gave information on a meeting between AUGSA and Shawn Fraser, Dean of FGS, which had three main discussion points:

1. Planned changes to the application process for graduate studies;
2. Graduate student awards being centralized by aligning all awards in one central spot; and
3. Upcoming curriculum reviews and better supporting research.

L. McNena shared that a meeting with the FHSS Dean was missed by all AUGSA reps. The Council discussed engaging in better communication amongst Council Members to ensure meetings are not missed, allowing opportunity to reschedule, and improving student representation on behalf of graduate students.

R. Khan shared that the Provost Renewal committee is moving along in the renewal process and he has appreciated the level of involvement the University has provided. R. Khan also shared that collective agreement bargaining with the University on behalf of academically employed graduate students is progressing but that it still has some work to be done over the next few months.

R. Rupok discussed that meetings and ongoing communication has taken place with the bargaining committee throughout the month of June. The University has sent the revised collective agreement with agreed upon terms so far. The bargaining committee plans to review. There are still terms in the agreement to be bargained but AUGSA is hopeful bargaining will conclude very soon.

9.0 Monitoring Executive Director Performance:

R. Rupok explained that this section of the agenda is where the Council reviews reports submitted by M. Sullivan. Monitoring reports will be submitted in accordance to a schedule built during the 2023-2024 term. In the interim, activity based reporting will be presented until monitoring reports are developed.

M. Sullivan reminded Council that the Annual General Meeting will take place in July. The agenda will be limited to approving the audited financial statements and selection of next years auditor. There are no bylaw changes for approval this year.

M. Sullivan announced registration is open for the Graduate Student Research Conference and encouraged everyone to share the news and attend if possible.



Additionally, the student survey is schedule for June 29th to July 30th. Council Members are encouraged to share the survey broadly across their faculties to get a larger response from our members.

10.0 Self-Evaluation & Governance Process

R. Rupok explained this portion of the agenda is to reflect on governance, how the Council is performing as a group, and any discussions regarding opportunities for improvement.

S. Todd inquired on the ability to have Council members overlap by a month during transition. Onboarding can be overwhelming given Council Members are joining so many committees all at once. M. Sullivan explained we normally do job shadowing in the month of April; however, it was decided to forego the job shadowing this year due to the shift in governance. AUGSA plans to implement job shadowing again next year.

L. McNena expressed she felt the Council meeting was streamlined in comparison to previous years on Council, and it appeared much more efficient. M. Sullivan expressed that while we are all learning, we are right on track this year in our learning process.

B. Hollett asked about role clarity regarding the Chair and Vice-Chair. M. Sullivan explained that in accordance to Policy Governance the Chair and Vice-Chair roles have additional tasks but do not carry additional authority in the sense of reporting structure. Every Council Member is equally representing on Council and the role of Council is to operate as a team.

11.0 Information Requested by the Board

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

12.0 In-Camera Session

With no required business the Council elected to not have an in-camera session.

13.0 Questions/Adjournment

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting.

K. Johnston/B. Hollett
8-0-0
Motion Carries

The meeting was adjourned by general consent.

