

Council Meeting – November 21, 2023 – 6:00pm MT

Microsoft Teams

Present:

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

Regrets:

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 inquired if any Council Members had any real or perceived conflict of interest. No conflicts were declared.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda:

Motion:

To approve the agenda as presented.

J. Kauenhofen/R. Khan
7-0-0
Motion Carries

The motion was approved by general consent.

5.0 Adotion of Previous Minutes:

5.1 Regular Minutes of the Council from October 17, 2023.

Motion:

To approve the minutes as circulated.

J. Kauenhofen/S. Todd



7-0-0
Motion Carries

The motion was approved by general consent.

6.0 Required Approvals:

In accordance with AUGSA Bylaw, the annual budget is prepared by the Executive Director and shall be approved by Council each year. As per the Budget Development policy, the budget for the upcoming fiscal year shall be presented by November 1st of the current fiscal year.

Motion:

Having assessed the policy for EL-1.04 Planning and the Association's Bylaws, and finding the ED in compliance with a reasonable interpretation of Council's policy, the 2024 Operating Budget is approved as presented.

J. Kauenhofen/ B. Hollett
8-0-0
Motion Carries

The motion was approved by general consent.

7.0 Items for Discussion:

7.1 Ends

J. Kauenhofen distributed an email regarding the Ends progress with updates. Sharing the Ends policies on screen, this included:

- Global End: AUGSA, as the official graduate student voice, is committed to cultivating an educational environment of inclusion and equitable opportunity that continuously improves student member experience by ensuring:
 - *End 1: Graduate Students have the support services that meet their individual and collective needs which enhance the quality of their learning experience.*
 - *End 2: Graduate Students interests are collectively represented within intra-university and external-provincial initiatives.*
 - *End 3: Graduates Students have an avenue to further intellectual, cultural, social, and political aspirations.*

Motion:

To approve the Ends policies as presented.

D. Exelby/ L. McNena
7-0-1
Motion Carries

7.2 Executive Limitations

R. Rupok and J. Kauenhofen explained they would like Council to develop a succession plan for staff. M. Sullivan explained this already exists for the Association, and is included as an Executive Limitation in the Council Policy Manual. M. Sullivan expressed



this would be a potential overstep of Council, and that Council's role should remain focused on representing graduate students and governing the Association.

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.

7.5 Board Means

J. Kauenhofen and R. Rupok shared they have been working on creating formal Board Means, similar to Ends, stating Means do not exist in the Council Policy Manual. Council inquired on what this work entails and shared the work was unnecessary.

M. Sullivan noted the Means section of the agenda was added with the intent for Council Members to be able to speak about the ways Council are collectively representing students through different activities or practices or governing on behalf of the Association. K. DeCoste and S. Todd shared a similar understanding that this section of the agenda was a place to discuss new business activities or agenda items that don't fit elsewhere in the meeting.

The Council feels there is a misunderstanding on Board Means agenda item, with a feeling this agenda item was more of an opportunity to discuss how (means) Council Members are doing their roles as Council Members, how they are leveraging feedback through ownership linkage (such as from surveys), and other representation work they are doing to represent the collective voice. A suggestion to change the name of the agenda item was made, to be more clear.

M. Sullivan will reach out to A. Bergen for clarification on the Board Means agenda placeholder.

8.0 Ownership Linkage:

8.1 Council Member Reports

No further discussion on monthly reports.

8.2 Update on CASA Exploration

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

8.3 abGPAC Update

There are no further advocacy updates from abGPAC. abGPAC's society status has expired. The organization is working on getting re-incorporated. In the interim, the organization cannot lobby on behalf of Albertan graduate students.

8.4 Collective Bargaining

AUGSA student leaders, R. Khan, R. Rupok, and J. Kauenhofen make up the bargaining committee (on behalf of graduate assistants as per the collective agreement). AUGSA and the University are currently undergoing bargaining the terms of the collective



agreement. AUGSA is prepared to sign off on several articles to date that have been verbally agreed to. AUGSA is also waiting on the University to share what the proposed wages are.

R. Rupok explained the desire to control the sign off process and to have M. Sullivan facilitate the signing off of Articles in the collective agreement, as well as to facilitate document reviews and revisions on behalf of the bargaining committee with the lawyer.

The next meeting is set for December 8th, 2023.

9.0 Monitoring Executive Director Performance:

9.1 Treatment of Staff Monitoring Report

M. Sullivan shared the Monitoring Report 1.09 – Organizational Culture. M. Sullivan provided an overview of the report, noting the compliance to the Council Policy Manual demonstrates incremental steps. M. Sullivan explained that work is already underway with Salopek & Associates in respect to policy development with plans to have new HR policies in place by end of year.

10.0 Self-Evaluation & Governance Process

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

11.0 Information Requested by the Board

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

12.0 In-Camera Session

No business was conducted in the current meeting.

13.0 Questions/Adjournment

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned by general consent.

**J. Kauenhofen/R. Khan
8-0-0
Motion Carries**

