

Call to Order – 2:33 pm, October 20, 2014 | MBC 2296

1. Roll Call of Attendance

Committee Composition

Executive Officer (*chair*)..... Darwin Binesh
Board of Directors Member Shadnam permKhan
Board of Directors Member Shirin Escarcha
Board of Directors Member Adam Potvin (*late*)
Board of Directors Member Rebecca Langmead
Councilor Marija Jovanovic
Councilor Gursher Sidhu
Student At-Large.....
Student At-Large.....Gaganjot Lidhran

Society Staff

Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator..... Pierre Cassidy
Minute Taker Dion Chong

Guests

Regrets

Absent

2. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION CPR 2014-10-20:01

Escarcha/Amended Khan

Be it resolved to approve the agenda as presented.

AP-32 changes and Fixed Committee Meeting Time policy items added.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

Board of Directors will be opening the seat for the vacant Student At-Large position.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

MOTION CPR 2014-10-20:02

Escarcha

Be it resolved to approve the minutes of 2014-09-15 and 2014-10-06

CARRIED

4. New Business

a. Amendment - AP-32 Extended Health and Dental Fees

The fee schedule for the health and dental plan had changed as per the successful referendum question passed in the 2013-2014 General Elections, which introduced an enhanced coverage tier at a premium cost alongside the existing basic extended coverage offered to the membership. An amendment was needed to align the policy with operating practice.

MOTION CPR 2014-10-20:03

Khan

Be it resolved to recommend to BOD to amend the Current Members clause within AP-32 Extended Health and Dental Fees to reflect levied fees as per the referendum question of the 2013-2014 General Elections.

Action Item: Vice President External Relations would follow up with the Finance Office to retrieve the current levy numbers to present to Board.

CARRIED

5. Discussion

a. Policy Request for the Addition of a Fixed Committee Meeting Time

All SFSS committees at present have changing meeting times each semester, which has caused turnover issues. The President has requested a fixed meeting time to be determined across the organization.

CONS

- Mandatory classes may result in a chairperson of a particular committee being unable to attend their own committee.
 - This may have an added impact in limiting the efficacy of duly elected representatives, if a vice president could not chair a committee which held jurisdiction over areas overlapping with the respective VP's role
 - Although chairperson duties could become flexible, the committee desires for chairpersons to be involved in committees that they had the passion and drive to manage, as opposed to committees selected purely for scheduling purposes.
- As a policy change, the matter could be revisited on a yearly basis, which may form the basis for organizational strife and political maneuvering
 - Future discussions on the matter would be further complicated by the necessity of policy changes moving forward.
- Set meeting times may become a barrier to participation in the student society, particularly in light of recent voter turnout numbers and preexisting issues of society participation
- Potential Alternative Procedures: Chairs would have to set meeting times by a certain point in time (ex. 15th of the month prior to the next semester), or during the orientation period for the beginning of the year. Provides for a guide to selection without mandating a requirement.

PROS

- If meeting times were in policy, this would allow prospective Board of Directors nominees to plan their year around the policy-mandated meeting times.
 - Board members should be prioritizing the SFSS if they are running, and therefore any fixed meeting times should not come as a surprise.
- There were advantages in settling all issues around schedule once and for all, reducing the time spent debating the matter at the board level.
- Such a policy may stem the loss of members throughout the year while the work of the committee was underway.

- For Fall semester, doodles were sent out and times were selected based on the times when most incumbent members were available, which has resulted in loss of members and the necessity to reappoint individuals to the positions vacated.
- Changes to meeting times throughout the academic year already results in committee member turnover.
- At the minimum, the Board of Directors and Council were deemed to require fixed meeting times, although all other committees could change around them
 - EXEC and FARM may also require fixed times as well.
 - Council times may also require changes, due to the marginalization of students representing student unions based on other campuses.
 - Council already has a de facto fixed meeting time.
 - A procedure may be necessary to set such a time from the Council side
- Fixed meeting times provided an opportunity for the organization to streamline its meetings and provide greater workload certainty for both board and staff.

Permanence of a policy was identified as a major issue. However, there was consensus that the current system was not ideal and some changes were plausible, along with a wholesale review of the committee structure. The committee could make a recommendation to both Board and Council for a strategy which addresses the issues identified. Changes to the policy could be integrated to SO-1 for greater uniformity.

The Committee would continue to have discussions on the matter via email.

b. Committee Training and Functioning

- The Committee may benefit from a training session, as well as a review of R-1 through R-4 and identify procedures around approaching the CRP Office
 - Not workload issues were identified, as the Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator would have to be involved in the process regardless and such training would streamline the process.
- When a draft policy is submitted, the drafter may wish to speak to the Campaigns, Research, and Policy Coordinator to provide for preliminary planning.
- In instances where policies require recommendations from departments or other parties, where members do not directly interact with coordinators, the CRP Coordinator would request the review and recommendation on behalf of the committee.

6. Unfinished Business

a. Financial Requirements Policy

POSTPONED TO NEXT CPR

b. Interfund Loan Policy

POSTPONED TO NEXT CPR

c. Investment Policy

POSTPONED TO NEXT CPR

Potvin left at 3:12pm

7. Attachments

Fixed Meeting Time Policy Request.pdf

8. Adjournment 3:15pm

DC /CUPE 3338



Policy Proposal Form

The policy request form will be used to frame the development of any new policy and the revision of any existing policy. It will also be filed permanently to provide context to any future revision, addition, or deletion.

General Information

Name

Position

Date

Type of Request New Policy

Revision

Policy Reference Number

Organizational Need

Any policy creation or change should result from a need not currently being met by the current policy manual. Provide the context that prompted this request.

Policy Proposal

Provide the proposal you are submitting to the Committee for Policy Review.

Explanation of Proposal

In light of the need outlined above, provide an explanation of the policy proposal as the best available option for catering to that need.

Relation of Proposal on Existing Policies

Provide an analysis of how your policy proposal will impact existing policies. Make sure that any policies you cite are attached to the email generated when you submit this form.