

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations

Alliance canadienne des associations étudiantes

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Friday, March 22nd 2013 (10:30 am PST)

Vancouver, British Columbia

Thea's Lounge

1 Call to Order (10:00am PST)

2 Roll Call

Present (25)

Acadia Students' Union (**ASU**)

Dalhousie Student Union (**DSU**)

La Fédération des étudiants et des étudiantes du centre
universitaire du Moncton (**FÉÉCUM**)

Red River College Students' Association (**RRCSA**)

McMaster University Students' Union (**MSU**)

Saint Mary's University Student Association (**SMUSA**)

LATE

St. Francis Xavier Students' Union (**St.FXSU**) **LATE**

Students Association of Mount Royal University (**SAMRU**)

University of Alberta Students' Union (**UASU**)

University of Calgary Students' Union (**UCSU**)

University of New Brunswick Student Union (Fredericton)
(**UNBSUF**)

University Students' Council of the University of Western
Ontario (**USCUWO**) **LATE**

Wilfred Laurier University Students' Union (**WLUSU**)

University of Lethbridge Students' Union (**ULSU**)

Brock University Students' Union (**BUSU**) **LATE**

Athabasca University Graduate Students' Association (**AUGSA**)

Graduate Student Society at UBC Vancouver (**GSSUBC**)
Graduate Student Association at the University of Waterloo
(**GSAUW**)
University of Prince Edward Island (**UPEISU**)

Absent:

UFVSU

UNBSJ

3 Call for Proxy Vote

4 Appointment of Plenary Chair

[4:1] BIRT Z.Dayler be appointed as Plenary Chair for the duration of plenary at the 2013 Annual General Meeting.

Due to a last minute health issue National Director Z.Dayler stepped in to serve as Chair for the day. This was approved with general consent of those participating

5. Reports

1 Board Chair

Supporting Documentation: [Board Chair Report](#)

- Report presented.
- No questions

2 Secretary

Supporting Documentation: [Secretary Report](#)

- Report Presented.
- No Questions

3 Treasurer

Supporting Documentation: [Treasurer Report](#)

- Report Presented.

- No Questions.

4 National Director

Supporting Documentation: [Strategic Plan Report](#)

- Report Presented.
- No questions.

6. Committee Reports

1. Policy Committee

Supporting Documentation: [Policy Committee Report](#)

- Report Presented.
- Question: Thanks for work, recommendations for next year's policy chair?
- Answer: Report, encouraging more meetings of policy committee, passing recommendations to home office.

2. Graduate Council

Supporting Documentation: [Graduate Council Report](#)

- Report Presented (acting chair).
- No Questions

a. Strategic Planning Committee

Supporting Documentation: [Strategic Plan Year One Report](#)

- Report Presented.
- Question (MSU): Are there are recommendations for whether we needed a strategic plan, and is it feasible for us to have metrics?
- Answer: Strategic plan is good, recommend that every year in the last year of a strategic plan, a committee is convened to examine that issue. Last year the plan allowed us to take

issues forward in a way that is productive. It is useful but that would be up to the membership to support in the future. Right now, the plan is in the hands of the board, yet the strategic planning committee remains in existence. A committee only really needs to exist in the last year of a plan to create the next plan. There was work to do this year, but next year the board should be able to take ownership of implementing that plan. The metrics are good and useful, we will find areas to refine their importance over the coming years, and can review those to make them more useful. It will be up to the membership in 2 years to determine if we want to continue strategic planning.

- No further questions.

3. Bylaw Committee

Supporting Documentation: [Bylaw Committee Report](#)

- Report presented.
- Notice given: Changes to associate membership status. No longer eligible to run for the board. Working on equity of fee structures and privileges for this status of membership. Soliciting feedback.
- Notice Given: Changes to federal “not for profit act”, updating bylaws to remain in compliance. Going to the centre for good governance to review bylaws.
- Question: Associate membership, why are we waiting on that?
- Answer: Changes need to be given formal notice, next conference will see formal changes implemented. Clear mandate from the membership to make these changes.
- 6 months continuance motion needed.

a. Working Group on College and Polytechnic issues

Supporting Documentation: [Draft Trades & Technology Committee Terms of Reference](#)

- Report Presented
- Motion coming: Trades and Technology committee to be established.
- Question: Why is the ND manager of stakeholder relations under this committee structure?
- Answer: This is similar to the structure template being used for all the other committees, same as the grad council. This is true for the grad council and policy committee terms of reference.
- Answer (ND): At the beginning of each year, staff divides responsibility for committees, we can modify the policy accordingly for this committee on the motion to adopt as a friendly amendment.
- Question: For quorum, any requirement would be 2 voting members, why would it be this number?
- Answer: Two was chosen because so far there are only 2 college/polytechnic members who would definitely be a part of this committee.

4. National Advocacy Team

Supporting Documentation: [National Advocacy Team Report](#)

- Report Presented.
- No questions.

Any additional comments from directors at large?

- Petros Kusmu: Additional Comments.

- Liaison for the national advocacy team. Encouraging a more competitive culture for advocacy mission, to encourage more satellite lobbying.
- For Recruitment, has been pursuing additional recruitment efforts.
- F05 was a blast. Student work program issues is something being worked on for national transitions.
- Makahonek:
 - Regarding status of being an associate member
 - Happy to be full members again.
 - Commending the national director and the home office staff. Looking forward to the coming year.

6. Motions & Discussion Rising from Reports

- a. Board of Directors
 - Budget Approval

- A **[5:2:A]** BIRT CASA approve the 2013-2014 Draft Operating Budget

Moved Chair,
Seconded Treasurer.

- Comments: Budget has been presented. Speaking in favour of budget.
- Comments: Commending the budget on the accessibility of this budget, and clarity for membership. Excited for next year's budget.
- No Questions.

Supporting Documentation: [Draft Budget 2013-2014](#)

- Vote: Approved Unanimously.

- B **[5:2:B] BIRT** Ousely Harvey Clipsham Deep LLP
be retained to conduct the 2012-2013 CASA Audit

Moved Treasurer,
Seconded STUSU.

- Comments: Using KPMG as a precautionary measure, changing auditors. Confirmed that this Org is less expensive.
- Questions?
- Vote: Carries unanimously.

- C **[5:2:C] BIRT** University of Lethbridge be selected as
the hosts of the 2013 Policy and Strategy
Conference

Moved BUSU,
Seconded University of Alberta.

- University of Lethbridge Presentation.
- Q+A: (Informal process)
- Airport in Calgary.
- Accommodations in downtown, up to 4-bedroom dorms.
- Home office will look at various options for travel and accommodation options. Will help to facilitate.
- Vote: Carries.

(15 minute break)

- b. Policy Committee

- A **[5:3:A] BIRT** CASA approve the policy proposal
entitled "Developing a Mental Health Strategy".

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded FÉÉCUM.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS.
- Friendly Amendment to modify the 2nd Ask statement according to the “Friendly amendments” document.
- Questions: None.

Supporting Documentation: [Developing a Mental Health Policy Framework](#)

- Vote: Motion Carries.

- B **[5:3:B]** BIRT CASA approve the policy proposal entitled “Implementing an Unsubsidized Student Loan Stream for Canada Student Loans Program”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by: UW-FEDS, no proposals for amendments.
- Spoken to by: AUGSA – this will allow more students to get access to loans.
- Vote: Motion Carries
- Abstention: U of A student Union

Supporting Documentation: [Developing an Unsubsidized stream for the CSLP](#)

- C **[5:3:C]** BIRT CASA approve the policy proposal entitled “Open Educational Resources”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by: UW-FEDS – vetted by policy committee, discussed yesterday, no amendments.
- Spoken to by AUGSA – New way to access publishing resources, part of a global movement.

- Vote: Motion Carries.

Supporting Documentation: [Open Educational Resources](#)

- D **BIRT** CASA approve the following clauses separately, which will make up a new version of policy A30 “Amending the Canada Student Loan Program Needs Assessment”:

- i **[5:3:D:i]** **BIRT** CASA approve the clause “Amending the Canada Student Loan Program Maximum Assistance Levels” as A30.1

Moved Waterloo-Feds,

Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: AUGSA provided comprehensive research report, working w/home office, incorporated recommendations.
- Spoken to by AUGSA: Addresses unmet needs by adjusting maximum levels for students
- Vote: Motion Carries

- ii **[5:3:D:ii]** **BIRT** CASA approve the clause “Amending the Assessment of Allowable Costs” as A30.2

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,

Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Increases assessment levels for single independent students.
- Spoken to by AUGSA: Helps students to meet costs through CSLP.

- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

- iii **[5:3:D:iii]** BIRT CASA approve the clause
“Amending Asset Assessment in the CSLP” as
A30.3

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: This section incorporates changes to needs assessment, eliminating RRSP and investments up to 10,000
- Spoken to by AUGSA: This reflects the current climate and needs.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

- iv **[5:3:D:iv]** BIRT CASA approve the clause
“Eliminating Parental and Spousal
Contributions from the CSLP needs” as A30.4

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Incorporating research from AUGSA, some reformatting.
- Spoken to by AUGSA: This motion speaks to individual circumstances.
- Vote: Motion Carries

- v **[5:3:D:v]** BIRT CASA approve the clause
“Allowing Study Period Income and Scholarship
Exemptions” as A30.5

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded AUGSA.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: This reflects current asks, fully exempting in-study

income, with fallback of increasing exemptions.

- Spoken to by AUGSA: Reflects more comprehensive support of students.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

vi **[5:3:D:vi] BIRT** CASA approve the clause “Creating an Effective Appeals Mechanism” as A30.6

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded BUSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Policy remains the same as it was before.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [A30.1](#), [A30.2](#), [A30.3](#), [A30.4](#), [A30.5](#), [A30.6](#)

vii. **[5:3:D:vii] BIFRT** CASA rescind A30

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded RRCSA

- Spoken to by UW FEDS: This is cleaning up the books, now that former content is in newly approved policies, this now reflects present advocacy priorities.
- Vote: Carries Unanimously.

F **[5:3:F] BIRT** CASA approve the policy update for policy entitled A26 “Copyright Legislation”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: This reflects the new environment of copyright legislation.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [A26 – Copyright Legislation](#)

- G **[5:3:G]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update for policy entitled A27 “Expanding the Canada Student Grant”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Additional Ask added to reflect priorities from lobbycon 2012, increasing grants 25%
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

Supporting Documentation: [A27 – Expanding the Canada Student Grant Program](#)

- H **[5:3:H]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update for policy entitled A29 “Part-time Student Access”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Reflects accomplishment for part-time students and repetition of ask in A30, recommending rework and expand this issue.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [A29 – Part-time Student Access](#)

- I **[5:3:I]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update to policy A31 "Investing in the International Student Experience".

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: This will be split into smaller policies. Also asks have been accomplished, such as international student grants, and work visas.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [A31 – Investing in the International Student Experience](#)

- J **[5:3:J]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update for policy Q15, entitled "International Branch Campuses"

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded SAMRU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: This policy has had a formatting change, and modification to asks, and adding specificity for levels of government.
- Vote: Motion Carried Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [Q15 – International Branch Campuses](#)

- K **[5:3:K]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update for policy F08, entitled "Affordability of Academic Materials"

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded WLUSU

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Rescinding two asks, sending to policy committee and needing updating.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [F08 – Affordability of Academic Materials](#)

(Recess for 40 minutes)

- L **[5:3:L]** BIRT CASA approve the policy update for policy F09, entitled “The Repayment Assistance Plan”

Moved Waterloo-FEDS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UW-FEDS: Some mild changes to reflect targeted groups, and preamble changes.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

Supporting Documentation: [F09 – The Repayment Assistance Plan](#)

c. Graduate Council

- A **[5:4:A]** BIRT CASA approve the policy proposal entitled “Expanding PhD Graduate Fast-Track Residency Through the Federal Skilled Worker Program”, conditional upon the addition of financial implications of recommendations by home office in conjunction with graduate council.

Moved UBC-GSS,
Seconded DSU.

- Spoken to by UBC-GSS
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

Supporting Documentation: [Developing a PhD Fast-Track for Residency](#), with amendments.

d. Working Group on College and Polytechnic issues

A **[5:5:A]** BIRT draft operational procedure "Colleges and Polytechnics Committee" be adopted as submitted,

Moved SAITSA,
Seconded RRCSA

- Question: Can we change the name to “trades and technology committee”?
- Spoken to by Matthew: This is a need to do work representing college and polytechnic students, and help to bring their concerns forward nationally. Staff have helped support this committee, we only have 2 college/polytechnics, and we can add 4 members at large. The quorum issue has to do with limited number of college/polytechnics. Members will have final say on policies put forward by this committee.
- Question – AUGSA: Document was not available until quite recently. Is there a way to ensure this is addressed in the future?
- Answer: There was a mistake in communication
- Statement UASU: It would be a shame not to pass this committee now, this is an important issue.
- Vote: Motion Passes Unanimously

7. Motions Rising from the Membership

- A **[6:1] BIRT** that CASA approve the revised national data collection policy as circulated

Moved MSU,
Seconded USC-UWO.

- Spoken to by MSU: Policy was explained yesterday, did not receive any significant changes. This general principle is already on a previous policy, this replaces and adds to that older policy and updates the asks. This was not on the policy committee agenda. While this was last-minute, we feel it is important to bring this issue to the membership.
- Director at Large: There has been some review on this policy, and feel it is at the usual level of quality for CASA policy.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously.

Supporting Documentation: [Canadian Data Collection Strategy](#)

- B **[6:2] BIRT** that CASA approve the Tri Agency Funding Increase Policy, as part of I05.

Moved MSU,

Seconded ASU

- Spoken to by MSU: We had feedback from other delegates, and while some of the principles in the new proposal are contained in I05.
- Spoken to by policy chair: Policy committee reviewed the policy, but did not comment on the final quality or direction.
- Vote: Motion Carries Unanimously

Supporting Documentation: [Equitable Increases in Tri Agency Funding](#), with amendments.

8. Other Business

- Any other business?
 - Treasurer: Three schools have not yet paid membership dues. Please ensure that those have been fully paid up.

9. Adjournment

- Motion to Adjourn:

Moved by BUSU

Seconded by UCSU

- Vote: Motion Carries unanimously.

- Membership Photo: Please go to the rotunda at the end of the street.