



## **SASKATCHEWAN POLYTECHNIC STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION INC.**

### **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina & Saskatoon Campuses Zoom Meeting Wednesday, December 9, 2020**

**Present:** Jesse White, President; JJ Lang, VP Finance & Internal Operations; Marina Verchenova, VP Moose Jaw Campus; Robert Carnahan, VP Prince Albert Campus; Reece Skjonsby, VP Regina Campus; Thao Pham, VP Saskatoon Campus; Carol Tetreault, General Manager and Louie Ramos, Executive Assistant

- 1. Subject: Call to Order**  
Jesse called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.
  
- 2. Subject: Adoption of Agenda**  
MOVED by Reece, SECONDED by Marina to accept the Agenda as amended. CARRIED.
  
- 3. Subject: Adoption of Meeting Minutes**  
MOVED by Bob, SECONDED by Reece to accept the November 25, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented. CARRIED.
  
- 4. Subject: President's & Vice President's Reports**  
MOVED by Reece, SECONDED by Thao to accept the President's and Vice Presidents' Reports as presented. CARRIED.
  
- 5. Subject: General Manager's Report**  
MOVED by Marina, SECONDED by Reece to accept the December 9, 2020 General Manager's Report as presented. CARRIED.
  
- 6. Subject: Campus Council Update**  
Marina has announced that Sharon Wang has resigned from her position as Campus Director – Moose Jaw. The SPSA would like to thank Sharon for her services and we wish her luck in her future endeavours. A Director Interview for the Moose Jaw Campus is currently scheduled for Friday, December 11, 2020.



**7. Subject: Action Items**

7.1 VP Finance's Report (October 29, 2020)

Complete.

7.2 President & VP Finance's Report (November 25, 2020)

Complete.

7.3 Health & Dental Benefits Implementation (October 29, 2020)

Complete.

7.4 KNOW Conference (November 25, 2020)

The Executive Council members have been participating in various KNOW Conference Committee meetings. Thao indicated that in their meeting today, SPT asked the SPSA to distribute guidelines to students regarding expected etiquette and behaviour for the event. Prior to determination of SPSA involvement in this request, Jesse, Reece, and Thao will meet to discuss their respective KNOW Conference Committee meetings and provide this information to Executive Council.

**ACTION: Jesse, Reece & Thao**

7.5 SOFA Student Concerns (November 25, 2020)

7.5.1 Tuition & Fees

Jesse has contacted the Minister of Advanced Education and is currently working on scheduling a meeting with the Hon. Gene Makowsky.

7.5.2 Exam Requirements

Marina indicated that programs should follow SPT Policy regarding exam requirements but SPT Faculty have been given freedom in creating guidelines for their exams. There is nothing written in policy regarding what they can and cannot do, specifically regarding additional costs for exams i.e., webcams. Members agree a consistent approach is needed and additional information is being sought. Jesse will include this topic in the next SPT Meeting Agenda.

**ACTION: Jesse**

7.5.3 Bookstore Concerns

Bob has contacted the bookstore managers regarding student concerns and has not yet received a response. The bookstore has sent out an email to students indicating that a new system is in place for ordering and purchasing new textbooks. However, there is currently no update on previous orders that haven't been fulfilled. Bob will contact Derek Tannis, Director of Student Engagement & Learning Services to inform him of issues that students are experiencing.

**ACTION: Bob**

**8. Subject: New Business**

8.1 Advocate for Information Management Students

Marina spoke with a couple of Information Management Students and they indicated that they are not concerned with the issue of buying webcams for exams. Marina has also contacted Tara, who indicated that there should be no cost to students to qualify for their finals. Tara contacted the Information Management Academic Chair regarding this issue, and she indicated that she was not aware of this issue and will investigate. Marina and Tara are currently waiting for the Academic Chair's reply. Jesse will also include this topic in the next SPT Meeting Agenda.

**ACTION: Jesse**

8.2 SPSA Fee Schedule 2021-2022

The Executive Council discussed the possibility of reinstating the Infrastructure Fee if everyone is allowed back on campus for the next academic year. Carol indicated that any changes to the SPSA Fee Schedule should be submitted to SPT by February 28, 2021. This item will be moved to Ongoing Business.

8.3 Students' Survey

Executive Council discussed the implementation of a student survey in January 2021 to gauge how students are currently faring in their online learning compared to when they first started in the spring. It was suggested that each Standing Committee develop questions addressing their concerns and add them to the existing survey questions from the spring survey. JJ, Marina, Reece, Bob, and Thao will work with their respective Standing Committees to develop suggested questions.

**ACTION: JJ, Marina, Reece, Bob & Thao**

**9. Subject: Ongoing Business**

9.1 Strategic Plan Draft: October 1, 2019 (Executive Council)

General Council agreed to include the following statement to the Student Engagement pillar: "Empower students to increase peer interactions by providing social initiatives and encouraging student's involvement in SPSA activities". General Council has also agreed on using the slogan "students leading students".

Louie will forward the approved Strategic Plan to the General Council.

**ACTION: Louie**

9.2 GC Members Compensation/Reimbursement: November 9, 2020 (Executive Council)

9.3 Study Session Rooms: October 29, 2020 (Executive Council)

Jesse met with Derek Tannis, who indicated that he would forward this suggestion to PERT (Pandemic Emergency Response Team) as both the UofS and UofR have study rooms that students can book. If PERT rejects the suggestion, then Executive Council can bring this forward to Dr. Larry Rosia, President & CEO and Dr. Has Malik, Provost & VP Academic.



**10. Subject: Closed Session**

The closed session began at 3:55 p.m.  
The closed session ended at 4:25 p.m.

**11. Subject: Announcements**

There are currently no Announcements at this time.

**12. Subject: Next Meeting**

Zoom Meeting – January 6, 2020, 3:00 p.m.

**13. Subject: Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Date Accepted:

Signature: