

General Faculties Council
Student Conduct Policy Committee
Approved Open Session Minutes

Thursday, September 23, 2021
Zoom Virtual Meeting
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

ATTENDEES:

Joanna Harrington, Chair
Nikita Adekar
Kimberlee Billows
André Costopoulos
Talia Dixon
Lisa Glock
Paresh Kumar
Abner Monterio

Judith Spiers
Adrienne Wright
non-voting:
Deborah Eerkes
Janice Johnson
Kate Peters
Michael Peterson
Marcel Roth
Veronica Taylor

REGRETS:

Carla Prado
Brad Hamdon

Staff:

Heather Richholt, Coordinator

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Joanna Harrington, Chair of GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee (SCPC)

Before calling the meeting to order, the Chair made the following territorial acknowledgement:

As we gather remotely, and to situate us and our work, I would like to acknowledge that the University of Alberta is located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Motion: Spiers/Dixon

THAT the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee approve the agenda.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of October 22, 2020

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Joanna Harrington, Chair of SCPC

Motion: Spiers/Wright

THAT the GFC Student Conduct Policy Committee approve the open session minutes of October 22, 2020.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Chair (no documents)

Presenter(s): Joanna Harrington, Chair of SCPC

The Chair welcomed everyone and asked members to introduce themselves.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. GFC Committee Orientation

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Kate Peters, GFC Secretary and Manager, GFC Services

Purpose of the Proposal: The proposal is before the committee to provide governance orientation to committee members.

Discussion:

Ms Peters provided a brief orientation and spoke about the Committee's delegated authority and its responsibility to make recommendations to GFC and to the Board. She provided the example of the Residence Community Standards Policy that was on the current meeting agenda and explained how GFC and the Board would rely upon the work and recommendation of the committee. She noted that the questions and considered deliberation of informed individuals at the committee level were integral to the functioning of the governance system and contributed to the strength of proposals.

There were no questions.

5. Residence Community Standards Policy

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): André Costopoulos, Vice-Provost and Dean of Students; Janice Johnson, Assistant Dean (Residence Life and Education); Alison Exner, Supervisor, Residence Life - Community Support

Purpose of the Proposal: To discuss the proposed updates to the Residence Community Standards Policy, and the creation of associated procedures and an information document in the University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online (UAPPOL) as set out in the attached.

Discussion:

The presenters noted that they had consulted with the SCPC working group the previous year and were now coming forward to the full committee for consultation on the proposed changes including moving the Policy into the University of Alberta Policies and Procedures Online (UAPPOL). They explained that many of the current practices had changed since the most recent approval of the policy and that it was important to reflect the evolution of the procedures and to update some outdated information as well.

Members and presenters raised questions and expressed opinions related to restorative justice practice including, but not limited to:

- The statement of confidentiality and whether it made the practice more accessible;
- The importance of providing assurance to participants that information they shared would not be held against them in other University processes;
- Whether confidentiality agreements would prevent those involved from sharing information with counsellors or seeking the advice of the Ombuds;

- Whether the confidentiality agreements would prevent someone from participating in the practice;
- That negotiation was part of the process of setting up a restorative conference in order to create a safe space and to determine what was and was not in bounds;
- That a process which allowed for healing and conflict resolution within the community was very positive;
- How the outcomes of restorative justice practice would be communicated to those involved in safety planning, when necessary;
- That restorative process was a set of steps and that while confidentiality would come into play at some point, clarity around expectations was built into the process;
- That it was important to be clear about the expectations around confidentiality; and
- A note about confidentiality to the point permitted by law.

6. Question Period (no documents)

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

7. Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings
- Remote Meeting - First cycle of GFC Standing Committees

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

CLOSING SESSION

8. Adjournment
- Next Meeting of SCPC: October 21, 2021
- Next Meeting of GFC: October 25, 2021

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.