

Governance Committee Minutes

August 8th 2023

Present: Ayesha Irfan (Chair), Salva Sherif, Amaan Paanchbai, Kareem Hassib, Kamil Kanji, Sheldon Goldfarb (Archivist & Clerk of Council)

Absent: Thomas Dunsmore, Julianna Jou (Student-at-Large)

Guest(s):

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 pm.

2. Personalized Land Acknowledgement

Given by Ayesha Irfan

3. Approval of minutes

- Meeting minutes from:
 - June 1
 - June 12
 - July 11
 - July 18

Moved: Ayesha Seconded: Salva

4. Code Changes

- Approval of EPA Code Change:
 - Ayesha says that this is the code change to make the speaker non-voting.

Moved: Ayesha Seconded: Salva

- Article 11 Policies is approved after the discussion.

Moved: Ayesha Seconded: Kareem

5. Discussion Items

- SR1: Privacy Policy Review
 - Ayesha says that Sheldon is also our Privacy Officer. Any major changes can be suggested by him. Esmé stated that the changes are up to Sheldon.

- Sheldon states that he has received no suggestions, and has no changes to suggest.
 - Sheldon's rundown of the policy: To follow the PIPA which says that information can be collected, used, disclosed with consent. The information that is being collected is always explicitly stated for a reason and this is the only reason the information can be used for. Reasonable efforts will be made to keep the information safe and individuals can request their information so long as it does not infringe upon other individuals' rights.
 - There have not often been many complaints, however, usually it is due to emails being sent with cc's instead of bcc's.
 - Salva asks if there have been any complaints about consent of information collection since the last policy was reviewed.
 - Sheldon states that the last major issue was CampusBase glitch revealing information.
 - Staff in specific offices have access to emails and have incorrectly used them for campaigning purposes. No other major issues.
 - Sheldon asks if there are any minor changes and Ayesha states that there isn't any in particular.
 - Sheldon says that he will take a look at it and come back next week. He asked about every 3 years for review.
 - Ayesha states that 3 sounds good. Salva agrees and adds that the policy just needs to keep pace with changes to the PIPA.
 - Committee will further discuss and approve this policy next meeting.
- Article 11 Policies - External Policy Review
 - Ayesha states that this is something referred to us by Sheldon from an Executive meeting as they saw that there was no need to keep external policies. Ask Kamil (VPAUA) for clarity.
 - Kamil states that many things in the External policies manual are outdated and prescribes the AMS to specific standards. Essentially, external policies slow down Advocacy and AMS agility.
 - Ayesha asks if this was the specific context.
 - Kamil shares that the Advocacy committee, a year ago, tried to discontinue the External Policies Manual and realized that external policies weren't that helpful.
 - Sheldon adds that code is very clear about how to make external policies, which is quite old, however, it isn't clear about what they're for or what

they do. This specific thought has been brought up earlier by a prior executive.

- Kamil adds that issues such as those related to tuition, affordability, and more are usually fine-tuned and re-affirmed in AGMs making external policies redundant.
- Ayesha asks when the External manual was removed.
- Kamil answers the last year or the year prior.
- According to Sheldon, this is likely correct.
- Ayesha asks for more clarification about what precipitated the External Policies manual's removal.
- Kamil states that the manual was reviewed a while ago and did not seem relevant or referenced by the AMS executive. Seemed more efficient to remove the manual than constantly refresh it.
- Sheldon adds that there were no recent policies past 2018.
- Ayesha states that it makes sense to change code if there are no external policies anymore.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Next Meeting will be on August 15, 2023 from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM.