

Minutes of the 9th meeting of the Board of Directors of the University Students' Council held on July 24th, 2006 in Room 305 UCC.

Present: Fab Dolan (President), Pedro Lopes (VP Campus Issues), Paris Meilleur (VP Education), Alison Todd (VP Finance and Clubs), Tamara Watters (Legal Affairs Officer), Mark Osborne (Assistant General Manager), Pat Weiler (Recording Secretary)

Absent: Vicky Simanovski (VP Student Events), Aron Yeomanson (Communications Officer), Karen Jackson (General Manager)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dolan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with the addition of 7.2 Clubs Net (Todd).

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to ratify the minutes of March 13, 16, 20, 27, 28, April 3, 5, 10, 24, May 2, 16 and June 8, 2006.

Dolan/Carried

4. COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR

Dolan and Todd will be going to Vancouver from August 1st to 3rd to meet with the UBC Students' Council and to trade ideas about long-term planning. While Dolan is out of the office, Lopes will be Acting President.

Lopes and Meilleur will attend a parking meeting while Dolan and Todd are away.

Dolan asked Board members to submit brief written Board reports weekly. This will help the secretary with minutes and will help Board members organize their thoughts before the Board meeting.

Karen Jackson, General Manager, is on vacation this week.

The USC Infoteam weekend will be held this weekend.

5. UPCOMING DATES

July 26th – Meeting with Intercollegiate Athletics regarding football game during Orientation Week

6. PRESENTATIONS TO BOARD

There were none.

7. BOARD MATTERS FOR APPROVAL

7.1 Councillor Travel (Todd)

Todd explained that for the USC summer meeting voting members are reimbursed for travel. The policy is that the lesser of train or bus fare is paid and there is a limit of \$200 for air fare. Mileage is paid for those who are coming from places where the bus or train is not an option. Todd reported that someone traveled from the U.S. to attend the meeting and the mileage reimbursement calculated was \$318. The trip by bus would have been fifteen hours each way which Todd pointed out was not a reasonable amount of travel time. The bus fare would have been \$157. Todd suggested that another option for the Board to consider is to reimburse this individual \$200 which is the maximum for airfare.

Todd recommended that the Board approve reimbursement of \$200 because councillors did not know about the travel policy in advance. She also pointed out that councillors should be told about the travel policy in advance next year.

Dolan agreed with Todd and felt that it was the responsibility of the councillor to inquire about the travel policy before taking on that expense. He added that there might be a need to clear up the policy and re-word it if necessary. He pointed out that it is not financially possible to pay the cost to bring every councillor back for the summer meeting.

Motion to reimburse the councillor (who submitted a mileage claim for \$318) \$200 for travel expenses.

Todd/Carried

Todd also pointed out that in the travel policy it states that only voting members of Council are reimbursed for travel to the summer meeting. However, the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker are required to attend that meeting but are not voting members. Todd recommended that those two individuals be reimbursed for their travel according to the Travel Policy.

Motion to reimburse the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker for their travel expenses (according to the USC's Travel Policy) to the summer meeting of Council.

Todd/Carried

7.2 ClubsNet (Todd)

In confidential minutes.

8. BOARD MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

8.1 Long-Term Plan (Dolan)

Dolan told the Board that he and Aron Yeomanson (Communications Officer) met to discuss the approach to developing and writing the long-term plan for the USC. They established the section topics, a writing schedule and discussed format. Each section will have its own preamble so can be read on its own without reading the whole plan. After the preamble commitments will be addressed (e.g. goals and details). Dolan and Yeomanson will meet every Monday to work on the preambles for two sections each week. Board members and management will be consulted. Each Monday there will be

the first of a series of drafts for review by the Board. Board members will be able to make recommendations for the next draft. This process will continue into October. At that point there will be some townhall meetings and some focus groups. Feasibility studies that are addressed in the plan will be carried out by management.

Dolan said that the timelines are as follows:

- by November 15th the Board will finalize its ideas for the Long-term Plan and will go into full scale writing mode.
- the first draft will be written by the end of December
- the Long-Term Plan will be presented to Council on January 10th
- the Long-Term Plan will go to Council for approval on January 24th

Dolan said that one section of the Long-term Plan will be on the renovations to the UCC. This might be required to go to referendum if a student fee is involved. If that is the case and the referendum does not pass, the plan for the renovations would have to be re-visited and Council would have to look at ways to finance renovations without changing the student fee. Once the election is over the Long-Term Plan will be finalized.

Dolan said that in January the promotions phase of this project will begin. An email will be sent in September to all students through Acting One. This will be a call-out for ideas and responses will be directed to Dolan's email account. Responses will be reviewed by Dolan and Yeomanson and taken to the Long-Term Planning Committee.

8.2 TV Western (Dolan)

Dolan told the Board that the recommendations that the Board made for TV Western during the retreat were discussed in a meeting with Karen Jackson (General Manager), Grant Stein (Manager of TV Western and CHRW) and himself. Timelines for new initiatives were discussed. There was agreement that TV Western has to be delivered online. Stein and Kim Mills (TV Western Director) are working on the new initiatives and it will be brought back to Board.

Lopes asked what timeline was given by the Board.

Dolan noted that TV Western was given an extra year by Council. Council renewed the TV Western fee for one year. When the next budget is being prepared a decision will be made.

Lopes noted that TV Western is getting an additional year of student fees with this extension. He asked what they are doing with those funds.

Dolan said that TV Western has been working on a pilot project. He and Todd have seen it and said that it looks good. There was a problem with some equipment breaking down. Dolan was optimistic if TV Western could provide the quality of program as seen on the pilot on a consistent basis.

Lopes asked how TV Western would be distributed.

Dolan said that it would be online. He added that there was a positive response from Stein regarding more partnership between TV Western and The Gazette. He was under the impression that students wanted more original programming but heard from feedback from the retreat that students are more interested in keeping abreast of the news.

Osborne said that in a discussion with Jackson last week, it was noted that the system needs to be more user friendly and advantage taken of synergies when possible.

Lopes asked if their reliance on students funding the website and asked if there is a promotions strategy.

Osborne confirmed that a marketing strategy is necessary.

9. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

9.1 VP Campus Issues

Movies for Topical Programming: Lopes is working on topical programming and will be asking Board members for help with this project.

Phone meeting with Labatt's: Lopes said that he had a meeting with Labatt's regarding their campaign. He learned that their message is about responsible drinking. The campaign is called "What's Your Plan", to have a plan to get home safely.

Charity Ball: When Lopes was in New York he spoke with Nicky Hilton about the possibility of having some dresses donated for Charity Ball. He will talk to Hilton's agent when she is in Canada and explain what the donation would be for.

9.2 VP Education

Grade 8 Conference: Meilleur and Dolan met with Fred Longstaffe, UWO VP Academic, and John Doerksen (Acting Vice-Provost) to discuss the proposed Grade 8 Conference. Meilleur is waiting to hear from them about the type of support that they are able to offer.

Campus Campaigns Committee: Meilleur and Laura Burke, Campus Campaigns Commissioner, are in the process of planning forums and debates with the political clubs. This will lead up to Model Parliament which Meilleur is considering moving to the Campus Campaigns portfolio.

CASA: David Simmonds has been appointed CASA Ambassador for the summer. Meilleur will be looking into the structure of this committee to find a way to better select the OUSA and CASA representatives.

OUSA: Meilleur reported on the OUSA Planning and Strategy Conference which was held on July 17-19. Plans were started on the pre-election campaign "Be an educated voice; make an educated choice". Discussion took place on the impact of Bill 159 (security legislation) on Western Watch and Foot Patrol. This issue will be addressed at

OUSA's fall General Assembly to see if membership wants to pursue the issue as an OUSA issue. If not, OUSA can support member schools in individual lobby efforts.

Meetings:

July 24 – meeting with Kadie Ward from the Emerging Leaders think tank

July 27– meeting with John Bourque, Policy Advisor to John Tory

August 1– Meilleur's birthday

August 12 – 17 – on vacation

August 18 – 20 – Post-Secondary Education Partnership Conference in Edmonton

August 25 – OUSA Steering Committee meeting

9.3 VP Finance and Clubs

Travel Reimbursements: Todd has been processing travel reimbursements for the summer meeting of Council.

Emails: Todd noted that she has been answering a lot of emails.

Clubs Pamphlet: Todd reported that this project was much tougher than she thought it would be. It will be going to print tomorrow.

Health Plan Opt Outs: Todd met with Tim Adams (from Campus Trust), Karen Jackson (General Manager) and Geoff Pimlatt (Systems Administrator) regarding the option of being able to opt out of the health plan online. There is a possibility that this will be done on a trial basis this year.

Auditors: Todd reported that the audit is taking place this week.

Budget Book: This project is in progress and Todd expects that she will have it done by the end of the week.

Charity Ball: Todd has been working on the Charity Ball budget.

Orientation Week: Todd had a look at the Orientation Week budget briefly and so far it looks good.

9.4 VP Student Events

No report as the VP Student Events is on vacation.

9.5 President

New Furniture: Dolan offered Board members the use of workspace in his office while new desks are being assembled in the offices of Board members.

G-10 Presidential Summit: Dolan has been talking to Kithio Mwanzia (President of Brock Student Union) about this conference. It is in the planning stages. Ten schools are involved and Dolan said that many of the agenda items will be helpful with the USC's long-term plan.

Yellers: Dolan told Board members that if they receive email or phone messages of a yelling nature, he should be told about it. He said that he does not want people taking things out on Board members. Dolan will step in and deal with belligerent callers or people who send belligerent email messages.

One-on-one Meetings: Dolan has been holding one-on-one meetings with Board members. He and Lopes still need to have their one-on-one meeting.

Fanshawe Student Union: Dolan had lunch with Christine Thomson, President of the Fanshawe Student Union. Housing issues might be addressed cooperatively. Fanshawe might be interested in the grocery checkout program.

USC Website: Geoff Pimlatt, USC System Administrator, is still working on the USC website and is communicating with Dolan and Aron Yeomanson, Communications Officer, about this project. There is a possibility that the USC might put out a request for proposals if the site cannot be done designed internally.

10. OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 Communications Officer

Dolan noted that Yeomanson is on vacation and will be back in the office tomorrow. His main focus at the moment is the long-term plan.

10.2 Legal Affairs Officer

By-Laws: Watters is working on Section 6 of By-law 1.

Clubs Policy Committee: This committee will be meeting this week.

Research: Watters is doing legal research on case law related to vendors liability.

Soph Appeals: Last week Watters worked on soph appeals.

10.3 General Manager

EnviroWestern Mug Project: Osborne reported that Desjardin and Ring-a-Wing have expressed interest in supporting this project. The sponsorship could be in the \$3500 range. Osborne said that a taste testing for Ring-a-Wing would be arranged.

Nerds on Site: Osborne reported that there is a possibility that Nerds on Site will do a presentation on the physical security of computers.

Sponsorship Letter: Osborne is working on a sponsorship letter for the Grade Eight Conference.

11. MATTERS ARISING FROM BOARD MINUTES

There were none.

12. NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

13. CONFIDENTIAL

Motion to move into confidential at 10:45 a.m. (for contractual and HR reasons)

Dolan/Carried

Motion to move out of confidential at 11:00 a.m.

Dolan/Carried

14. ACTION PLAN AND ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m.

Meilleur/Carried

President and Chair

Secretary of the Board

Recording Secretary