

2011/2012 University Students' Council
Meeting #1
March 30, 2011

Posted Motion #5

Whereas, the University Students' Council tasked the Third-Party Funding Ad-Hoc Committee with determining whether the USC should levy student fees on behalf of third-party groups,

Whereas, it was determined by the Third-Party Funding Ad-Hoc Committee that any student fee levied on behalf of a third-party should pass through referendum,

Whereas, the USC Bylaw #2 already reflects the possibility for students or student groups to have a referendum question put on the ballot,

Whereas, the current section of Bylaw #2 – Part B, Section 2 – pertaining to student initiated referenda is not as thorough as the Committee has determined it should be,

Whereas, currently Bylaw #2, Part B does not contain any clauses referring to the USC collecting student fees on behalf of third-party groups,

Whereas, a definition of what counts as a third-party group is needed,

Whereas, third-party groups such as the LTC and Community Legal Services already collect a student fee,

Whereas, the Committee has determined that third-party groups should be able to collect a student fee through the USC provided it is in the best interests of students,

Whereas, USC-ratified clubs have neither a first- or third-party relationship with the USC,

Be it resolved that, the Bylaw Review Committee be tasked with the revision of Bylaw #2, Part B, Section 2 to reflect the following points:

- 1) Any student wishing to initiate a referendum shall contact the Governance Officer and Government Services Manager to review the process to have a referendum question put on the ballot prior to collecting signatures, including the collection of signatures, the campaigning process, and any other pertinent information.
- 2) Any student initiated referendum involving levying a student fee shall require:
 - a. A Board of Governors representative to be contacted by the USC to determine whether or not the Board would allow such a fee to be collected by the USC,
 - b. The VP Finance to work with the student to determine the exact fee that is to be levied by means of a budget prepared by the student,
 - i. If no such budget exists, the VP Finance shall assist the student in putting together a budget from which a student fee can be derived.

- c. The referendum be classified as a Registered Interested Party referendum and the 'Yes' Campaign be run by the student initiating the referendum or a proxy thereof, and;
 - d. An annual review of the student fee and its use be undertaken by the VP Finance.
 - i. Council has the right to discontinue its collection of a fee should the fee be used in a manner other than what appeared in the referendum question or should the party receiving the fee be unable to collect the fee.
- 3) Should a student wish to pursue a referendum, Elections Committee shall meet to draft a suitable question before any petition is circulated and said question shall appear on the petition so students signing the petition have a clear idea of what they are signing.
- 4) The number of signatures required for a petition to be deemed valid be increased to 20% of the Full Time Equivalent student population.

Be it further resolved that, the Bylaw Review Committee be tasked with the revision of Bylaw #2, Part B to reflect the following points:

- 1) A third-party group shall be defined by the following characteristics:
 - a. A third-party group shall not be a direct USC-led initiative nor shall it be a USC-ratified club.
 - b. A third-party group shall have financial oversight from either the USC or UWO.
 - c. A third party group shall be for the benefit of Western students.
- 2) Third-party groups who seek to have a student fee levied on their behalf must follow the procedure for a student initiated referendum laid out in Bylaw #2, Part B, Section 2.

Be it further resolved that, the VP Finance investigate alternative funding for clubs.

Be it further resolved that, these changes shall be presented back to Council no later than the first duly called meeting of the 2011/2012 Fall term.

SHAW/Kim