

Saitsa Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 4th, 2019

Senator Burns Penthouse - 6:00 p.m.



Present:

Alex Sutherland	BOD Chair	Voting Member
Jesse Wicks	Vice Chair	Voting Member
Avneet Brar-Sran	Director	Voting Member
Richard Hoang	Director	Voting Member
Tim Holowachuk	Director	Voting Member
Liam Hunter	Director	Voting Member
Shawna LeBlanc	Director	Voting Member
Jessi Leippi	Director	Voting Member
Candy Loo Tong	Director	Voting Member
Charlson Reyes	Director	Voting Member
Tristan Ryan	Director	Voting Member
Yatendra Solanki	Director	Voting Member
Ryan Morstad	President	Voting Member
Tanya Pittis	Vice President Academic	Voting Member
Garrett Koehler	Vice President External	Voting Member
Jess Beddow	Vice President Student Life	Voting Member
Joy Bowen-Eyre	Neutral Facilitator	Non-Voting
Rigel Raju	Board of Governors Student Representative	Non-Voting
Marc Stromme	Executive Director	Non-Voting
Rachel Paris	Manager, Governance & Advocacy	Non-Voting

Regrets:

Rio Valencerina	Coordinator, Governance	Non-Voting
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Guests:

Jaz Fraser	Student at Large	Guest
Jessica Dezall	Student at Large	Guest
Shana Froom	Student at Large	Guest
Angela Walgren	Coordinator, Administration	Guest

1.0 Call to Order

A. Sutherland called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m.

2.0 Acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories

A. Sutherland gave the acknowledgement of Traditional Indigenous Territories.

3.0 Conflict of Interest Check

J. Bowen-Eyre reviewed conflict of interest with the Board.

4.0 Oath of Office (all)

A. Sutherland reviewed the Saitsa BOD Oath of Office. The Oath of Office was recited by all members of the Board.

5.0 Approval of Agenda

The following amendments were proposed:

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- Item 10.1 to read BOD Documents/Office 365 - 15 minutes, T. Holowachuk

Motion

Move to approve the amended agenda.

T. Pittis/J. Wicks
Motion carried
16-0-0

6.0 Adoption of Minutes

6.1 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors from Oct. 7th, 2019

The following amendment was proposed:

- To have 7.2 read as "Governance Committee has not met during the summer."

Motion

Move to adopt the amended minutes from October 7th, 2019.

A. Sutherland/T. Holowachuk
Motion Carried
7-0-9

6.2 Special Meeting of the Board of Directors from Oct. 16th, 2019

The following amendment was proposed:

- To have the October 16th, 2019 BOD meeting minutes reflect that M. Stromme was called into the meeting at 4:45p.m., and that he was excused during the in-camera session and called back in twice.

Motion

Move to adopt the amended minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors from October 16th, 2019.

A. Sutherland/R. Morstad
Motion Carried
11-0-1

7.0 Individual Reports

7.1 President – R. Morstad

Report as submitted. The Round Table meeting is scheduled for this week, R. Morstad is developing a list of items to discuss that could impact the school year. The Fall Reading Week Committee was struck at the Academic Council; the Dean of the School of Business and the President of SAFA sit on this committee. The *Happy or Not* terminal is currently gathering feedback on the cost of the student UPass; feedback from the terminal will help to gauge students' feelings about the cost associated with the pass. Since the UPass' introduction in 2001, the cost of the UPass has increased over 400%.

7.2 VP Academic – T. Pittis

Report as submitted. T. Pittis and R. Morstad are transcribing their conversations with other post-secondary ombudsmen and are using their research to draft an Ombudsman Proposal to present to SAIT. The *Textbook Graveyard* display at the SAIT Library took place the last week of October; this event aimed to promote Open Educational Resources. A Happy or Not terminal is being utilized to gather student feedback on their feelings about fairness at SAIT; the terminal feedback will be incorporated with feedback

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from a survey that was developed to gauge the need for an ombudsman at SAIT.

7.3 VP External – G. Koehler

Report as submitted. G. Koehler expressed concerns regarding the need for additional staff-support for the offices of the VP Academic and VP External. G. Koehler requested a review of the budget by the Finance Committee to see if additional funds can be allocated to support advocacy initiatives as Saitsa. G. Koehler is collaborating with ASEC regarding the Alberta Government's recent budget announcements and changes to post-secondary education funding.

7.4 VP Student Life – J. Beddow

Report as submitted. J. Beddow requested Board volunteers for the upcoming International Student Reception. J. Beddow reported that there is now a family room on SAIT campus. A new SAIT Sustainability Committee has been struck through LAS that includes J. Beddow as a member. J. Beddow would like to set up a meeting with Chartwells to discuss sustainability initiatives that can be implemented through their services. SAIT/Saitsa are collaborating to host a Leadership Conference; Saitsa's Senior Manager, Student Experience chaired the first Leadership Conference planning meeting, which consisted both of SAIT and Saitsa staff.

7.5 BOG Student Representative – R. Raju

Report as submitted. Recently there was an incoming of several new board members at the Board of Governors. R. Raju has been appointed to the SAIT Investment Committee. The Free Speech Policy will be discussed at the Academic Council subcommittee of the Board of Governors on November 21st.

R. Raju excused himself from the meeting at 6:53pm

8.0 Committee Reports

A. Sutherland explained that the committees have not yet been struck, hosting this session was for educational purposes to explain how reporting will work moving forward.

8.1 Finance Committee – A. Sutherland

Not yet struck.

8.2 Governance Committee – A. Sutherland

Not yet struck.

8.3 Nominations Committee – A. Sutherland

Not yet struck.

9.0 Business Items

9.1 Ratification of Chair & Vice Chair – J. Bowen-Eyre

At the BOD Orientation, the Board elected their Chair and Vice Chair. The Board needs to ratify the elections.

Motion

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Be it resolved that Alex Sutherland be elected as the Chair of the Saitsa Board of Directors, for a term ending upon the election of their successor.

G. Koehler/C. Reyes
Motion carried
13-0-3

Motion

Be it resolved that Jesse Wicks be elected as the Vice Chair of the Saitsa Board of Directors, for a term ending upon the election of their successor.

J. Beddow/L. Hunter
Motion carried
13-0-3

9.2 Ratification of CRO Report – R. Paris

R. Paris reported that CRO Election Report summarizes everything that the Political Committee experience during elections. The voter turnout for the 2019 BOD Election was 18.7%, Saitsa's highest voter turnout in recent records. The Board was asked to consider all recommendations in the report.

Motion

Move to thank the outgoing Student-at-Large Kelsey Tovell for her service to the Political Committee.

T. Holowachuk/L. Hunter
Motion carried
16-0-0

Motion

Move to approve the 2019 Board of Directors Elections report.

G. Koehler/A. Brar-Sran
Motion Carried
16-0-0

10.0 Discussion and Information Items

10.1 BOD Documents – Microsoft Teams – T. Holowachuk

T. Holowachuk presented to the BOD the different platforms within Office 365. T. Holowachuk demonstrated how Microsoft Teams could be a great communication tool for the BOD to upload files, communicate with one another, and to keep their documents/data in one place.

10.2 Board Outreach/Engagement – R. Paris

The BOD Hotdog Drop engagement initiative went live on November 1st; 10 students have already submitted hotdog drop forms; students can apply at saitsa.com/hotdogdrop. This initiative is meant to be an opportunity for the Board to engage with students and to collect feedback on issues that matter to students.

10.3 Upcoming Saitsa Events – R. Paris

R. Paris updated the BOD on upcoming Saitsa events.

10.4 Committee Selection Appointment Process – A. Sutherland

A.Sutherland explained that each BOD member need to submit their first and second

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choice for committees. The appointment process will involve the Chair, Vice Chair and President; Board members will be informed which committee they have been appointed to.

10.5 Government of Alberta 2019 Budget – G. Koehler

G. Koehler provided an update to the Board on the recent announcements on the provincial budget and its effects on post-secondary education and affordability.

Motion

Move in camera without guests, and with Saitsa staff.

G. Koehler/T. Holowachuk
Motion carried
16-0-0

Meeting moved in-camera at 7:50 p.m.

10.6 2018-2019 Financial Review

M. Stromme provided an update to the new Board on the finances of the Association.

10.7 Executive Director Report – M. Stromme

Report as submitted.

10.8 In-Camera

R. Paris and A. Walgren were excused from the meeting at 9:06p.m.

11.0 Adjournment Motion

Motion

Move to move out-of-camera.

L. Hunter/R. Hoang
Motion Carried
16-0-0

Motion

Move to adjourn the meeting at 9:37 p.m.

L. Hunter/R. Hoang
Motion Carried
16-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

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A. Sutherland – BOD Chair

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