

Minutes of the General Meeting of the Student Union of Confederation College Inc. Board of Directors – November 10, 2021

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vignesh Viswanathan at 6:45 pm on November 10, 2021

Board Members Present

Ronnie Kasana, President

Robin Gathercole, Director of Athletics & Campus Recreation

Isabel Delaney, Senator of Business, Hospitality and Media Arts

Kevin Ammattil, Senator of Health, Negahneewin & Community Services

Sunena Shetty, Director of Social Events

David Johnson, Senator of Aviation

Nathan Smallwood, Senator of Engineering, Technology & Trades

Martina Su, Director of Student Wellness & Diversity

Raelyn Comeau, Distance Education Student Representative (joined at 8:15pm through zoom)

Lynne Savela, Executive Director (e.o.), Recorder

Don Duclos, Admin. Staff Representative (e.o.)

Vignesh Viswanathan, Chief Justice (e.o.)

Regrets

Vitasta Ganjoo, Vice President

Catherine Hilgers, Support Staff Representative (e.o.)

Kiran Ramesh, Past President (e.o.)

Adoption of the Agenda

“On a motion made by Kevin and seconded by Robin that the agenda be adopted.

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting – October 13, 2021

“On a motion made by Martina and seconded by Kevin that the minutes of the meetings from October 13, be accepted as presented.

8/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Declaration of Possible Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

DSW Learning Platform – Program Specific Mandatory Fee

This a new fee that will be charged only to DSW Students. Students have really benefitted by using the platform which has been piloted with the current students in the program. The platform helps to bridge the gap between theory and practise and also serves to augment and diversify the learning experience. The platform will provide more depth and breadth in their learning. The board suggested that it would be beneficial for students to be able to keep the platform when they leave the program similar to what they can do with textbooks. Don will follow up. Currently they only have access to the platform when they are a student.

Ombuds Service & Ombuds Fee

The Ombuds Advisory Committee met. President Kathleen Lynch proposed not filling the position of Ombudsperson and asked that the Ombuds Advisory Committee consider a new model which may better serve students. The part time position of Equity & Human Rights Advisor will be combined with a student appeals advisor portion to replace the Ombuds Position. Based on the annual reports a lot of the concerns the Ombudsperson received should be handled through Student Success as well as the Academic Advisors. Counsellors are there to help students with anything that is negatively impacting them and affecting them and is a discreet confidential service. The fee for the Ombuds Service will not be charged for the Winter Semester and possibly Fall 2022 as SUCCI should have enough student funds in the Ombuds Service budget area.

An updated position is currently posted. The title is Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Student Appeals Advisor. Board members expressed concerned with the title and felt that students will not understand. The title it is too formal for the student body. It is suggested the title be changed to something shorter such as Student Rights Advisor. Marketing of the service will be important so students know the service exists. There will be some sharing of costs similar to the Ombuds Service and there will be a committee similar to the Ombuds Advisory Committee. The committee can review how the new service is working for students once it has been put in place and operational.

Library – First Floor & Building Hours

David Johnson has received complaints that there is nowhere to print in the evening in the Shuniah Building. There is also confusion with the building hours of operation and students being asked to leave the library. The hours are not consistent with the building hours and there is confusion and disconnect. Ronnie will follow up. Students do like to use the library to study and currently on the weekends they are being asked to leave at the end of the day. If the building is open like Food Services, students should be able to continue to study in library area. There are inconsistencies with hours on google. Don Duclos will follow up.

Approval of Student Records Fee

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Sunena that the Student Records fee be increased to \$15 for the 22-23 academic year.

6/0/2 MOTION CARRIED

Student Records Fee

Don will follow up to see if the Student Records under the new system will be available for students graduating prior to Fall 2022.

Domestic Student Health Plan Fee

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Sunena that the Domestic Student Health Plan Fee be increased to \$270 for the 22-23 academic year.

7/0/1 MOTION CARRIED

Wellness Centre Membership Fee

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Martina that the Wellness Centre Membership fee be increased to \$130 for the 22-23 academic year.

5/3/0 Motion Defeated (fee approvals require 2/3 in favour)

Ronnie Kasana who was on the prevailing side of the motion asked the Chair to reconsider and vote motion on an amended motion. The chair asked the Board and the Board agreed and proceeded with a final vote on a motion with some adjustments to the original motion

Amended Motion – Wellness Centre Membership Fee

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Martina that the Wellness Centre Membership fee be increased to \$130 for the 22-23 academic year. with the understanding that Paul Inkila will attend a future meeting and that the services will not be cut in the 22-23 academic year”

6/2/0 MOTION CARRIED

Raelyn joined the meeting through zoom at 8:15 pm.

Universal Bus Pass Fee

“On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Sunena that the U-Pass fee be increased to \$230 for the 22-23 academic year.

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Distance Education Concerns

Raelyn indicated she has received some feedback from students and they are concerned that they are not getting the full educational experience. The teaching experience is not what they feel works or was proposed. It was suggested that Rae connect with Anne Renaud to discuss concerns she has received. Lynne will set up a meeting.

In-Camera Session

On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Sunena that the the Board proceed to an in-camera session.

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

End of In-Camera Session

On a motion made by Ronnie and seconded by Sunena that the board move out of the in-camera session and accept the decision made.

9/0/0 MOTION CARRIED

Next Meeting

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 6:30 pm on Wednesday, November 24th.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:48 pm.