**Absent**: Peter G, Madhu G, William H, Savio J, Nareesa K, Rachel L, Stella L, Cynthia M, Pablo P, Madison P, Delaney S, Dan S, Devanshi S, Ankush V, Frank Y

*Motion to call to order firsted by Victoria seconded by Graeden*

*Motion to adopt the agenda firsted by Elliot seconded by Kwesi*

1. **Speaker’s announcements**

*Delaram S.*

* Want to maintain efficiency during the meetings, and welcome for any suggestions
1. **Member’s Announcements**
2. Biochem/ Micro-bio rep

(None)

1. **Presentations to Council:**

(None)

***Western Song***

1. **Council Business**
2. **Motion:** Ratification of the “Restructuring the Faculty of Science and Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry Student Levy” Policy Paper. Be it resolved that, Council ratify the policy paper as standing policy of the Science Students’ Council

*Motion firsted by Danny, seconded by Andriy*

**Mover:** Each person in science pays a $75 donation fee that they may opt out of, and we want to change the agreement between the SSC and the deans.

* Want to use the money for more innovative uses such as technologies and student experience rather than undergraduate teaching equipment which should be covered by tuition costs
* Want student group grants coming from the donations – as of now we only have about $4000 dollars for the student group grants coming from our operating budget
* We are not able to allocate a sufficient amount of money to very innovative ideas, and this causes us to become short on events
* Want to ratify this policy so it can be a stance that the SSC has on what the money should be allocated towards.
* The policy indicates how we must maintain transparency and a detailed track record for accountability purposes. Thus make sure the different departments follow up with receipts and proofs of purchase.
* **Andriy:** We as a council currently don’t get that information from the deans but need it for proper management purposes so other executives know where the money has been spent.
* **Jacob:** The motivation to expand the SSDAC application comes from the fact that in past years, departments will submit a request for money, but there isn’t sufficient detail in the request. Thus members on the committee have a lack of understanding of how that money will be used, resulting in the inability to make an informed decision regarding how much money should be allocated to a specific request. Essentially we look to provide guidelines to members on SSDAC as to what factors they should be looking for in an application, which can provide a sense of structure as to whether a request gets approved or denied.
* **Andriy:** Because the applications are so brief, when the different departments apply you get drastic differences in applications, such as how much detail they put into their request. Additionally, the SSC deliberates upon these requests late into the year and by that time it’s too late to go back to the departments and clarify the purpose for their requests.
* **Danny:** Make sure that according to enrollment the money is fairly distributed to the different faculties.

***POI – Rakshith:*** When you say that the money should be fairly allocated to different faculties does that mean there is a cap on how much money will be spent on a specific program?

***Answer – Andriy:*** It’s not strict by numbers it’s more of a holistic approach. The deans do have a bias to fund certain programs more than others (i.e. Medical Sciences) even though there may be more students enrolled in other programs. Understanding this allows us to make sure whether the money is split fairly.

***Danny:*** We will be looking at course enrolment for fair cost sharing.

* **Danny**: Since this donation is meant to better student experience, it shouldn’t be used just for classroom equipment. We want to look at how we are funding the student experience, specifically using this money towards student group grants which frees up the SSC’s budget. We also want to talk to the deans to create a portfolio regarding student experience for the student donation fund. This is currently vague but the deans are on board with this idea. For additional details contact Jacob F.
* **Andriy**: From past discussions, the deans are more open to the more flexible amounts that don’t have a restricted spending allotment; what’s in this policy is our beliefs but we will negotiate with the deans to get as much as we can.
* **Question and Answer**
* **Jake**: Unclear by what you mean for the expansion of applications, since you’re always going to get applications that aren’t high quality.
* **Andriy**: The issue is that the departments are filling out applications based on an assumption of what they should put in, rather than knowing exactly what to write and avoiding ambiguity. Previously we used very some vague criteria that was decided during meeting negotiations when selecting applications which is unfair to the departments applying.
* **Victoria**: If the SSDAC money is going to teaching equipment needs such as test tubes and scales, what happens when money stops going towards these basic classroom needs?
* **Andriy**: We’re not taking money away from teaching equipment. However, we want to be more explicit in the applications that the money the departments are applying for should be for more innovative ideas. We also want to talk to the deans that a portion of the donation fee should go towards student experience. But inevitably there will be applications for teaching equipment which will be funded otherwise labs won’t be able to run.
* **Jake**: The bulk of the paper is not including what the student donation fee should be allocated towards.
* **Andriy**: The purpose of the agreement is that it’s a teaching and equipment fund, and we’re not restructuring the SSDAC agreement, but within this policy we’re advocating for the money to go student experience rather than base classroom needs which tuition should cover. But if labs can’t run without it the funds for necessities such as test tubes, then obviously they will be given money for it
* **Matt**: The policy recommends that the money is allocated for student experience, but if the initial purpose of the SSDAC fund is for teaching equipment, would student experience be on an academic standpoint?
* **Danny**: A portion of the SSDAC fund does go towards undergraduate teaching equipment, but not all of it.
* **Andriy**: 15% goes toward the endowment fund. The interest on that can go towards anything, but it’s very vague how much of it is used for student experience. The principle amount of money in the endowment fund is not used, but the remaining amount of money goes to academic experience like teaching equipment. Students expect their donation to enhance their experience outside the classroom, so we would propose that 15% for student experience and the rest for academics.
* **Danny**: That’s where the student group grants would directly come from
* **Matt**: Where does the legacy fund come in?
* **Andriy**: The legacy fund was a one-time thing where $100,000 was put together that would go towards student experience. Theoretically that money was supposed to go towards events, and then the profits from those events would replace the money that was taken out. Though this has not been the case and now that money is down to $30,000. We also had scholarships which were a part of that but they have now expired.

***POI*** ***– Jake:*** When you have $300,000 to allot for SSDAC and you allot 40% of that where does the rest go?

***Answer – Andriy:*** It goes into to the endowment which gains interest and the SSC doesn’t take money out of it. Every year we should be looking to use everything from the equipment fund because the students who donate money should have it used for them in their year, rather than reserving it for students in the future.

**Danny**: SSDAC has not used a lot of money which should be spent, as the rest are just put into savings

**Andriy**: But many times the applications are not that great

* **Grace**: So the endowment fund is just there?
* **Andriy**: The principle remains, and we generate interest from it and since it’s student money council can use it. But the money should be used to create a lasting experience for science students, or for very innovative ideas. Our goal this year is to use the money as best as we can.
* **Gladys**: The brain and mind institute are moving offices, so could the interest we get from the endowment funds go into renovating those offices?
* **Andriy**: Danny and I must talk about that idea to the deans, but that’s definitely something we can use that money for, especially as a legacy initiative.
* **Gladys**: Where does the money from the legacy initiative come from?
* **Danny**: The legacy fund and legacy initiative are two different things. The money for the legacy initiative comes from the interest from the endowment fund, whereas the legacy fund the is the pool of money that is now $30,000.

***POI – Matt:*** In the future when we see a policy paper, when can we make amendments to it? Because right now we are voting on the motion to pass this paper, but we can’t make any revisions.

***Answer – Danny***: The idea of the research and policy committee for the year is to flush out these papers and go through the details which allows council to become an active part of these policy papers, and work on rewriting them. This is a side initiative for the summer, so we don’t have all the support networks, but that is the goal for the year.

***Andriy***: If there are concerns with how its written we can vote to not ratify this

***Danny***: But if we do ratify this all the text can be adjusted, it’s just the PCRs (what’s in the boxes) that are ratified.

***POI – Jake:*** What is your timeline for this?

***Andriy:*** Things like the applications for SSDAC needs to be done by September. The agreement for now is currently not a concern as it must be passed through the senate which will take a while.

***Danny:*** It has to be passed by all of senate because the overseer is the entire university.

* **Debate Period**
* **Jacob** – *FOR*:There are two main ideas to this paper
1. To refine the process which academic funds are dispersed, and prioritize that it’s going to innovative uses. Additionally, to provide members of SSDAC to have guidelines, resources, and criteria to follow to make informed decisions when selecting applicants.
2. Explains that the general focus of this is to fund to student life experiences rather than basic teaching equipment
* **Jake** – *FOR*: This policy paper should be used over the course of the summer for negotiations with the deans, and then use it as a way to reframe the current agreement which must be passed through the senate in due time. I suggest to pass this as it stands, use it in the summer to make negotiations with the deans, and in September come with our necessary amendments to this motion.

*Motion to call to question*

*Firsted by Victoria, seconded Kwesi.*

***Motion to ratify “Restructuring the Faculty of Science and Schulich School of Medicine and Dentistry Student Levy” policy paper as a standing policy of the Science Student’s Council passes unanimously***

1. **Executive Reports**
2. Vice President Academic *(Matt Y.)*
* Work on academic counselling
* Overall Goals: information sharing, and encourage proactive behaviour. This is done by clearly telling first years what academic counselling can do for them
* Also working with academic counselling to innovate faculty day.
* Currently determining logistics and data collection regarding faculty day
* Students want more stream specific information, and associate with peers in their specific program during O – week
* Solution:
* Move rotations to the end of the day, and take out professor meet and greet talk
* Separate them into streams based on the program they are in
* Give them specific first year presentation involving academic counselling, first year professors, and Q&A period
* Improve student feedback collection: how we collect student feedback like surveys, ask students what are the most important issues for them.
* Use incentivised surveys by reaching out to hospitality services to get gift cards for survey participation
1. Vice President Communications *(Gladys N.)*
* Stephanie and I are making a first year guide for the O – week package and you will get the final details on that by the end of July
* Currently updating the SSC website in time for O – week
* Working on the O – week video with Ryan W.
* Creating faculty merchandise to sell during O – week
* **Andriy**: For the faculty merchandise is it made to generate profit, or just to sell?
* **Gladys**: It’s made hopefully for profit, but first we will order a few and see if there is an interest
* **Kwesi**: Will the faculty merchandise be sold at the same time as the hats which are for charity merchandise?
* **Danny**: The OPC decided that any charity merchandise must be sold by the faculty council, not by the sophs anymore. Currently need a follow up to figure out the details
* **Elliot**: What about sophs who are a part of council?
* **Danny**: They are only allowed to sell the charity merchandise if they aren’t wearing their soph uniform. This will probably be figured out by August.
* **Gladys**: It’s free marketing for us, because sophs will be bringing their frosh to buy the hats, but they will get a chance to look at our faculty merchandise. The only issue is that we don’t have enough volunteers to sell these hats
* **Danny**: Everyone will want to get the hats anyways since all the sophs are wearing it.
* **Elliot**: You’re saying that these hats are western charity merchandise that are being sold through the faculty, side by side the faculty’s own merchandise?
* **Gladys**: Yes, but we’ll make it clear what is for western charity, and what is for the faculty.
1. Vice President Student Events *(Alina P.)*
* Our first major event will be the Amazing Race on September 24th. We have been working on getting sponsors to provide prizes for this event, and have partnered with Motion Ball
* This is an official sponsor we have that we can now put in our sponsorship package
* Motion Ball: A cooperation which has events for athletes with special needs
* They are sponsored by Pita Pit and Under Armour – at our event it’s possible that we can get a free pita pit lunch and under armour team shirts.
* They have already partnered with different clubs at western, and are well recognized by different universities
* **Olivia**: Do we sponsor Motion Ball and their sponsors like Under Armour or Pita Pit?
* **Alina**: As long as we promote Motion Ball with their logo and some facts, then their western team will support our events
* **Bahar**: In the sponsorship package we state that based on how much a sponsor donates, we give them different perks (shout out in the current, have a promotion booth at the event, etc.)
* **Elliot** what are the different levels of sponsorship?
* **Alina**: Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum
* The sponsorship package will be posted on Facebook once everything has been finalized
* **Jake**: Just to clarify the sponsorship package is for the event, not for the SSC
* **Alina**: Yes, it’s just for this event.
1. Vice President Finance *(Andriy K.)*
* Drafting the budget shortly
* For any of the dep reps who have any ideas for events, let me know ASAP so I can allocate enough money for that in time
* Currently renegotiating with the deans to get out our perspective on how the SSDAC funds should be used.
1. President *(Danny C.)*
* Strategic partnership: working the USC, faculty and affiliate councils to lay a solid foundation for a Tri – Sci event in the year
* E-campus Ontario: Publicly funded organization from the government which focuses on open textbooks throughout the province
* Finances: For the policy paper we worked on understanding the details and looking at revisions of the terms with the deans
* Open textbooks: free online textbooks
* Publicly funded
* These are peer reviewed and funded by the government
* Partnership with e – campus Ontario: Met with CEO and talked about the initiatives that we have in mind, and they are fully in support what we want to bring to Western
* E- campus Ontario has agreed to put on a workshop in October or November for faculty members in science and Schulich school of medicine
* USC going to look at this workshop too, and model this for all of Western
* Let me know if you want to know more information or help out
* New Role: Research and Policy – very helpful to understand policy papers like the one regarding SSDAC, and provide very useful information to negotiate with the deans
* Brandon is making organization papers for those who want to reach out to anyone for any sort of event
1. Commissioner’s Reports
2. The Current *(Stephanie L.)*

If anyone has anything they want in the frosh article, we are finishing up the articles by July 10th or 11th, and then start editing so please let me know as soon as possible

* **Andriy**: Are you making the quotes for this year?
* **Annie**: Yes, we will be posting about this soon this weekend
1. USC Report
* **Graeden**: Had the first meeting at the end of last year, we voted on looking into the feasibility of nap rooms.
* Voted for council to look into gender neutral bathroom, mental health support, education and support for transgender and non- binary students
* Frank is looking into an awareness campaign for gender neutral washrooms.
1. Senate Reports
* **Jake**: Student caucus is split into working groups for the summer. We are tackling 4 main priorities.
* Kelvin and I are working on early exam schedule release, there’s a group working on mental health initiatives, and repository of course syllabi
* **Kelvin**: Course enrollment will soon be one of them. The vice chair put out a google form on Facebook to get student feedback on course enrollment
1. New Business

(None)

*Motion to adjourn meeting firsted by Elliot, seconded by Matt*