Council Policy

Oversight body: Bylaw and Policy Review Committee

Date Passed by Council: March 27, 2015

Date of Next Review:

Related policies, bylaws, legislation: Bylaw 4

1. This policy shall be referred to as the “Council Policy”.

2. Members of Council

   2.1 Every member of Council shall:

       2.1.1 Before taking office, be required to provide confirmation of election or appointment from the appropriate group or society, if applicable, as well as contact information including an email address, to the Chair;

       2.1.2 Be eligible to vote at meetings of Council;

       2.1.3 Sit on no less than one committee of the Union;

       2.1.4 Report to Council on matters relating to his or her constituents;

       2.1.5 Be responsible for consulting their constituents on matters of importance to the Union via means including but not limited to social media, email, phone and meetings.

       2.1.6 Be responsible for attending all meetings whenever possible and send regrets to the DSU Chair prior to the commencement of the Council meeting they will be absent for. Councillors shall further be responsible for sending a proxy in accordance with the Union’s Rules and Procedures policy sec 19; and

       2.1.7 Receive an orientation on the Constitution, policies and procedures of the Union and Robert’s Rules of Order. Orientation will be facilitated by the Chair.

3. Chair of Council

   3.1 There shall be a Chair of Council, who shall:

       3.1.1 Conduct Council meetings in accordance with DSU Constitution and policy;

       3.1.2 Enforce the By-laws and the Policy of the Union as pertaining to Council meetings;
3.1.3 Ensure that all members of Council are given a reasonable opportunity to express their opinions;
3.1.4 Provide Council Members and the Policy and Research Coordinator with copies of the proposed agenda of a Council meeting at least 48 hours in advance of the start time of that meeting;
3.1.5 Be paid an honorarium pursuant to the Commissioner Policy;
3.1.6 Be responsible for monitoring Council’s adherence to deadlines; and
3.1.7 Organize the annual orientation of Council.

4. Board of Governors Representatives

4.1 There shall be two Board of Governors Representatives, who shall:
4.2 Sit on the Board of Governors;
4.3 Sit on the Board of Governors Caucus;
4.4 Sit on no less than one committee of the Board of Governors, and be given first priority for positions on committees of the Board of Governors;
4.5 be elected for a term of two years, individuals appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office only until the end of the session of Council during which they are appointed. In the event that no one is elected as a replacement, the individual may be re-appointed.

5. Senate Representatives

5.1 There are shall be four Senate Representatives, who shall:
5.1.1 Sit on the Senate;
5.1.2 Sit on the Senate Caucus;
5.1.3 Sit on no less than one additional committee of the Senate, and be given first priority for positions on committees of the Senate;

6. First Year Member-at-Large

6.1 There shall be a First Year Member-at-Large, who shall:
6.1.1 Be in their first year of their first degree or diploma;
6.1.2 Be responsible for representing first year students to Council and promoting the opportunities of the Union to first year students.
6.1.3 Be responsible for attending at least 1 meeting of each residence council per term as the Member at Large representative

7. Graduate Member-at-Large

7.1 There shall be a Graduate Member-at-Large, who shall:
7.1.1 Be a graduate student;
7.1.2 Be responsible for representing graduate students to Council and promoting the opportunities of the Union to graduate students.
7.1.3 Be responsible for hosting at least three (3) events or open consultations per
8. Member-at-Large

8.1 There shall be two Members-at-Large, who shall:
8.2 Be members of the Union enrolled in any program or year of study;
8.3 Be responsible for representing the student body at large to Council and promoting the opportunities of the Union to the student body at large.
8.4 Be responsible for hosting at least three events or open consultations per academic term.

9. Councillors as Employees

9.1 Members of Council may only be employees of the Union if they hold a part-time, student position at a DSU-owned business (e.g. the Grawood, the T-Room) or DSU-operated service (e.g. Campus Copy, Info Desk, etc.).