SENATE POLICY COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARSHIPS, AWARDS AND BURSARIES

October 16, 2017 ~ 10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Maggie Benston Centre ~ Room 3107

MINUTES

Attendees: S. Spector (acting Chair), M. Bhakthan, R. Dawson, S. Easton, J. Hinchliffe (secretary), R. Khan Hemani, C Percival, P. Tupper

Absent: J. Derksen, J. Lewthwaite, D. Ng, K. Stewart

Introductions were made for the benefit of the new SPCSAB members.

1. Appointment of acting Chair for SPCSAB meeting October 16, 2017

Motion 1
It was moved by C. Percival and seconded by S. Easton

“that SPCSAB approve that S. Spector serve as acting Chair for the October 16, 2017 meeting.”

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended.

3. Approval of the Minutes of May 15, 2017

The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Business Arising

a. Non-monetary Support for Recipients

M. Bhakthan and R. Khan Hemani both spoke to this agenda item to update the members on some of the changes to the program. There has been some restructuring within Student Services that will provide students with a more streamlined and efficient support through a single office. Students will be set up with an academic advisor to ensure they are taking the proper courses and an engagement officer will also work with the student and assist with preparing a plan for the next four years.

Student Services will work in conjunction with the faculties.
Discussion ensued with members posing questions regarding different processes that some faculties already have in place. Communication is key to ensure that both groups share their work with each other. It was suggested that the engagement portion should be led by the faculties due to their specific processes but not all faculties have the capacity to follow through. Advisors will assess appropriately to faculty specific needs. Giving back through the “community of scholars” and the use of the co-curricular record will enhance this process.

A question was posed as to how successful is this process in the Beedie School of Business. S. Spector explained that it has been changing over the years; evolved since the change in programs but is somewhat successful; working hard with a team of advisors who see and support a large number of students. There are gaps but overall, it is successful.

b. Possible name for new scholarship

There was brief discussion regarding the naming of the new scholarship. All agreed that Simon Fraser University should be within the name but other than that, it was difficult to finalize an official name. All agreed to revisit this in the future.

5. Old Business

a. Changes to the Terms of Reference for the New Entrance Scholarship Program (SPCSAB 17-02)

☐ Approved by electronic ballot on September 8, 2017 due to cancelled August 21, 2017 meeting. There were 4 Yes responses therefore the motion was passed.

“that SPCSAB approve of updated terms of reference for the Simon Fraser University Undergraduate Scholars Entrance Scholarship, effective Fall 2018.”

CARRIED

6. New Business

a. Youth in Care Tuition Assistance Program

(i) Continuation of the SFU Youth in Care Tuition Assistance Program (SPCSAB 17-03)

Motion 2

It was moved by C. Percival and seconded by S. Easton

“that SPCAB approve the continuation of the SFU Youth in Care Tuition Assistance Program until August 31, 2020. Students meeting all eligibility requirements (as outlined in the original terms of reference) to receive funding from this program may continue to be funded up to a maximum of 10 terms or until the completion of the first undergraduate degree, whichever comes first, should they not be eligible for funding through the new Provincial Tuition Waiver Program for former Youth in Care implemented as of September 1st, 2017.”

CARRIED
M. Bhakthan spoke to this agenda item and gave some background for the benefit of the new members. He explained about the new provincial government’s Youth in Care Tuition Assistance Program and how some of its eligibility requirements don’t align with the former SFU program. SFU is working with the ministry to create a parallel program to capture those students who may fall through the cracks during this transition period. The members had some questions for M. Bhakthan and R. Khan Hemani but generally all agreed to the continuation of the program until the summer of 2020.

Discussion ensued with questions from the members posed to M. Bhakthan. All agreed to add to the motion that a review be conducted in three years.

b. Annual Report

(i) Disbursement Summary of Funding Administered or Supported through Financial Aid and Awards
Comparative Report: Fiscal Year 2015/2016 vs 2016/2017
(ii) Entrance Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries 2016-2017
(iii) Bursary Program 2016-2017

There was much discussion and questions from the members. There were some suggestions and revisions to the draft and other queries for information
- Page 4, how many in each category
- Remove/change the automatics
- Can the committee get information on 2014 and 2015 admits and their performance?
- Add in % of funding offered and accepted.
- With entrance scholarships, can committee get information on what the issues are for success rates, what were the initial adjudication decisions?
- Bursary program, can it be broken down into graduate and undergraduate?
- There is interest in reviewing 2014, 2015 and 2016 outcomes.

Final document comes back to SPCSAB for approval and submission to the January senate meeting. The members requested another demonstration of this information using Tableau as it is much more dynamic and can drill down easier.

R. Dawson to bring forward the Grad Studies report at the next SPCSAB meeting.

7. Other Business

There was no other business

a. Appointment of SPCSAB Vice-Chair

Motion 3
It was moved by S. Easton and seconded by P. Tupper

“that SPCSAB approve S. Spector as Vice-Chair to the Senate Policy Committee on Scholarships, Awards and Bursaries.”

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 am
Minutes prepared by R. Balletta