



SAMRU's Mission

We represent and serve students to help them succeed.

SAMRU's Vision

Where every student can discover themselves, build meaningful relationships and make a difference in the world.

Minutes

Student Governing Board

August 24, 2020

4:00PM – 7:00PM

Google Hangouts

Present:

Governors (voting)

Matt Mickelson

Gracia Di N'zau Mbudi

Ian Lees

Christian Kindrachuk

Arooba Siddiqui

Erin Hepburn

Michaela Butt

Sophie Piche

Maggie Thaxter

Lucas Hardardt



Spirit River Striped Wolf (President, voting)

Brian Walters

Megan Borg

Amber Clark (Speaker)

Pat Cochrane

Aly Gerling (part)

Land Recognition

'Before we begin, we recognize that we are fortunate to be situated on Treaty 7 lands, including the Niitsitapi (nit-SIT-ah-pee, or Blackfoot) Nations of the Siksika (SICK-sick-ah), Kainai (GUY-nuy) and Piikani (pih-GAH-nee); the Tsuu T'ina (TSOO-tunuh) Nation; the Nakoda (nuh-KO-dah) Nations of the Bearspaw, Chiniki (CHIN-ee-kee) and Wesley; and the Metis Nations. Through this land acknowledgement we honour the agreements between the ancestral peoples of this land and the first Euro-Canadian settlers; agreements that have been historically dishonoured. We are all treaty people.'

Topic	Recommended Motion	Discussion Notes
SAMRU Board Intro Video	SAMRU communications will be providing a script and recording a video call with the Board for a SAMRU Board introduction video for the SAMRU website.	
Approval of Agenda	Motion: To approve the agenda. Di N'zau/Mickelson Carried	
Approval of Consent Agenda	Motion: To approve the consent agenda Mickelson/Lees	

**Board Professional
Development**

Governance Coach Cochrane:

- Reminder to refer to titles during the meetings
- Discussion on boards: a group of people elected or appointed to govern an organization
- Governors are individuals with varying skills, which helps boards to make better decisions
- Governors only have authority as a group to make decisions
- Article 6 and Article 7 in the bylaws are specifically about the board and governors.
- Most important relationship that the SGB has is with the executive director. The Board directs the ED, who manages the operations of the organization.
- The Board also has a direct reporting relationship with the Representation Executive Council, who are elected by the membership.
- The Speaker is hired by the Board
- The Board's responsibility is to focus on governance - read materials, ask questions, make decisions.
- The Governance Coach helps to support the board and provide guidance to the governors.

<p>Board Meeting Streaming & Platform Recommendation</p>	<p>Motion: To refer “SGB Livestreaming” to the September 14 work group meeting for further discussion. Hardardt/Mickelson Carried</p>	<p>President Striped Wolf noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed at the A&G meeting - A&G tasked REC and the ED to explore streaming platforms and bring the information back to the Board for discussion. - REC surveyed other Alberta Universities. <p>ED Walters noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3/5 schools are streaming - Breakdown of risk analysis of the recommended platform (Zoom) included in the briefing - ED Walters recommended that the board discuss the risks associated with streaming board meetings and take time to seriously consider the additional risks. - ED Walters included an additional briefing that includes his consideration points. <p>Discussion items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Zoom has some additional capabilities that will help the board regardless of whether they do public streaming or not. - It was noted that having the meetings available to the public increases board transparency. - It was noted that someone could have the ability to record meetings and have them available without consent. - Board meeting minutes would still be taken as usual as we are required to keep paper copies for posting on our website and for keeping in our corporate records. - Question re: participation of similar sized schools. It was responded that there was minimal participation.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none">- One piece of feedback from the survey of other schools was a higher level of scrutiny of board members.- Streaming meetings would increase the awareness of the board.-
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that comments can be taken out of context and that can be detrimental to a board. It may also change governor participation as they may fear speaking opinions. - Discussion on logistics of in-camera discussions - Clarification on whether the meetings are recorded and posted, or just available while streaming. It was noted that anyone viewing the meeting can record it. - ED Walters noted that there are some specific risks such as content posted out of context, loss of control over meeting records, legal discovering point and duty of care of the board (the potential for questioning from outside board members), director and officer liability concerns and additional records being available during potential legal litigations, risk of cyber bullying and harassment, SAMRU has 5 paid employees with obligations to Occupational Health and Safety requirements, SAMRU would be required to do an assessment in order to protect the paid employees. - Discussion around moderating outside participants during the meeting. - Discussion around exploring other options to increase board transparency, such as a board highlights video for the website or a blog post from the Speaker. The outcomes can be achieved through initiatives that have less risk. - Question around feedback from students on the topic. It was clarified that this has not been a topic brought forward from students, but came as a discussion point around voluntary student union/association fees. - Question around governor training <p>Action: Add to next Work Group meeting (Borg)</p>
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<p>CRO Appointment</p>	<p>Motion: To appoint Shauna Hunter as CRO until August 31, 2021. Hertel/Hepburn Carried</p> <p>Motion: To go in camera. Hardardt/Thaxter Carried</p> <p>Motion: To go out of camera. Thaxter/Hardardt Carried</p> <p>Motion: To create a work group to address the SGB process of CRO appointment. Lees/Hertel Carried</p> <p>Governor Piche left the meeting.</p>	
<p>SGB Statement Proposal</p>	<p>Motion: To affirm The Students Association of Mount Royal University's unequivocal support for historically disenfranchised communities including but not limited to: Indigenous, Black, people of colour, LGBTQIA+ and special needs. Di N'zau/Lees Carried</p>	<p>Discussion Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed at last work group meeting - Discussion around what SAMRU is already doing and how they are looking forward.
<p>Announcements (Discussed after approval of agenda)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Governor Gladue has resigned - Next meetings: September 14 Work Group/Committees, September 21 Board meeting 	

In-camera: REC Personnel

Motion: To go in camera.

Mickelson/Thaxter

Carried

Motion: To go out of camera.

Hertel/Hardardt

Carried

Motion: That the SGB direct the President and ED to take action on the employee resignation letter.

Di N'zau/Thaxter

Carried

Motion: To adjourn to the call of the Chair.

Hardardt/Mickelson

Carried