

**Minutes of the 13th
Students' Association of Red Deer College
2018-2019 Council Meeting
February 4, 2019**

Present:

Chaise Combs; President	Esther Schilling; VP Academic
Brittany Lausen; VP Community & Wellness	Elizabeth Sweiger; Executive Director
Anne Marie Watson; Chairperson	Janelle Grue; Secretary
Aurora Davis; Councillor, Voting	Justine Ecker; Councillor, Voting
David Fletcher; Councillor, Voting	Kendra Gagne; Councillor, Voting
Logan Garbanewski; Councillor, Voting	Jessica Hennelly; Councillor, Voting
Patrick Michelsen; Councillor, Voting	Jordan Phillips; Councillor, Voting
George Van Campen; Councillor, Voting	

Absent with Notice:

Robin Chiles; Board of Governors

Guests:

Torben Andersen; Assistant Vice President Academic University Transition, Red Deer College
Paulette Hanna; Vice President Academic, Red Deer College

13.0 Call to Order

A. Watson called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

13.1 Approval of Agenda

18-19-144-C

J. Hennelly, P. Michelsen

Motion: Approve the agenda with the following amendments:

13.3 – Councillor Resignations

13.7.2 – 2019-2020 Membership Fee Proposal

13.7.3 – 2019-2020 Executive Compensation Proposal

CARRIED.

13.2 Guest Speakers: T. Andersen and P. Hanna

T. Andersen; Assistant Vice President Academic University Transition, Red Deer College and P. Hanna; Vice President Academic, Red Deer College discussed the process of RDC's university transition from both an operational and academic point of view. Upon the government approving the institution's university status, RDC needs to meet certain requirements that define it as a university. This includes how RDC will fit in with the province's idea of post-secondary universities and what kind of a university it wants to become.

T. Andersen gave a thorough explanation of the transition process from an operational standpoint. This will be conducted in two parts: first, a review of the institution as a whole (finance, academics, library, student services, etc.) then a consideration of proposed degrees (business and education to be among the first). After a successful review of RDC as a whole, the institution will submit a degree-granting program proposal to the government for a system coordination review. Upon approval, the Ministry sends the proposal to Campus Alberta Quality Council that will review the quality of the degree applied for as well as any gaps that need to be filled. This review consists of the written

proposal and an in-person visit from the council to confirm the submitted paperwork. The Students' Association will be included in this visit. After this, a recommendation of whether or not RDC is ready for the university transition will be made and forwarded to the Minister, who will make the final decision. This process will hopefully be completed swiftly as RDC is aiming to have degree programs launched in the fall of 2021.

In regards to academic governance, changes in academic mechanisms will need to be made. Changing academic governance pertains to the process by which decisions are made in regards to academic matters (grading systems, academic standing, etc.). Transitioning into a university places academic decisions in the hands of the academic staff. Today, RDC has an Academic Council that makes recommendations to J. Ward; President, Red Deer College, who ultimately makes academic decisions on behalf of the Board of Governors. In the future, the Academic Council (known as the General Faculties Council) will make the decisions as opposed to the president. The majority of the General Faculties Council members will consist of faculty who will be chosen by their peers. For the time being, and as RDC transitions into a university, Academic Council will transition to Alternate Academic Council in order to gain experience of academic governance in terms of university standards. Alternate Academic Council will consist of 33 members: 13 designated administrative seats (registrar, chief library, president, VP academic, deans, etc.), 3 students, and 17 faculty members. Upon approval from the Board of Governors, the Alternate Academic Council will be running this fall.

Council asked T. Andersen and P. Hanna a variety of questions, such as the fate of collaborative programs with other institutions and possible tuition increases when RDC becomes a university. There is a possibility of new collaborative programs that would better suit the needs of students as opposed to the degrees that RDC can offer them (for instance, cheaper tuition through a collaboration). As RDC transitions into a university, it is likely that tuition will be raised to match those from other universities across the province.

Break at 7:02 pm; Return at 7:13 pm.

13.3 Councillor Resignations

C. Combs announced that M. Blatz and T. Grandjambe have resigned from their Councillor positions.

13.4 Executive Reports

C. Combs; President, had nothing to report. E. Schilling; VP Academic and B. Lausen; VP Community & Wellness, provided a verbal report and will submit a written report for approval at the next meeting of Council.

E. Sweiger; Executive Director, provided a verbal report.

18-19-145-C

K. Gagne, J. Phillips

Motion: Approve the reports as presented.

CARRIED.

13.5 Committee Reports

18-19-146-C

G. Van Campen, J. Ecker

Motion: Accept the following committee reports as presented: CAT Fund, Membership Engagement, Issues, BARC, and Mental Health.

CARRIED.

13.6 Council Reports

E. Schilling; VP Academic, provided a verbal report and will submit a written report for approval at the next meeting of Council.

18-19-147-C

J. Ecker, J. Hennelly

Motion: Accept the Council reports as presented.

CARRIED.

13.7 Information Items

18-19-148-C

A. Davis, P. Michelsen

Motion: Accept the following as information:

13.7.1 – BARC – Division of Policies: Governance and Operational

13.7.2 – 2019-2020 Membership Fee Proposal

13.7.3 – 2019-2020 Executive Compensation Proposal

CARRIED.

13.8 Adjournment

18-19-149-C

A. Davis, J. Phillips

Motion: Adjourned the meeting at 8:13pm.

CARRIED.

Chaise Combs, President

Elizabeth Sweiger, Executive Director

Anne Marie Watson, Chairperson

Janelle Grue, Secretary