

Student Leaders Meeting #3 – 2006/07

29 August 2006

**Held at the Offices of the Council on Post-Secondary Education
Winnipeg**

**1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
(Agenda Attached)**

Student Leaders in Attendance:

CUSB: Regrets
BU: Regrets
UM: Garry Sran, Rachel Gotthilf
UMGSA: Megan Gallant
UW: Kate Sjoberg
RRC: Rex Masesar
ACC: Shauna Leckie
UCN: Regrets

COPSE Staff in Attendance:

Sid Rogers, Secretary to Council
Dan Smith, Senior Policy Analyst

Introduction

The meeting came to order at 1:30 pm. Participants were welcomed and introductions were made.

Review of Notes from Last Meeting

The notes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Students noted that the section that addressed the issue of other fees should include a statement that the students acknowledged the government's policy and raise concerns about it.

Concerns regarding the EPI project with Manitoba Student Aid were again raised. Students asked if they could get a sense of when the report could be expected. Students also noted that they would like to participate in the selection process for firms that bid on projects. The Secretary to Council noted that this could be considered for projects initiated by COPSE. COPSE will undertake to determine whether there are barriers to their inclusion.

Follow-up on Items Raised in the Last Meeting

1. **Governance Issues:** Dan Smith reported back to students on what was heard from the universities on the governance matters raised in past meetings. This only served to raise more questions, highlighting the difficulty for a third party to effectively serve as an intermediary between students and university administration.

Dan Smith reported that both COPSE and universities would prefer to have students address these concerns with the universities directly. As these are internal issues to the universities, it is appropriate that the students and administration discuss the matters directly.

2. **Student Housing:** COPSE was unable to report back to students on the relationship between the University of Winnipeg, the contracted agency running student housing and *The Residential Tenancies Act*. Susan Deane of COPSE will report back to students when the information is available.

Other Issues

Student Association Legislation: Students asked for follow-up information on student association legislation. Dan Smith noted that governments are reluctant to legislate in areas that are covered by negotiated contracts, such as the administrative agreements between student associations and universities. It was noted that the U of W and UWSA are currently in negotiations, and potential legislation could interfere with those negotiations. There was a commitment to discuss this further.

Administrative Accountability: Students raised concerns regarding the increases in salaries for senior administrators, and made reference to a recent *Winnipeg Free Press* article by students on the subject. Sid Rogers replied that this is an issue that is properly addressed by the Boards of Governors/Regents at each institution.

Students also noted frustration with the amount of information that is provided to student board members prior to making decisions, such as budget decisions. Students felt that they did not have sufficient detail or time to analyze the proposals being made.

Working Groups: Students asked what the status was of stakeholder working groups. Dan Smith replied that while the intention was to establish them in the past, the changes in staffing at COPSE had delayed action on that item. Sid Rogers noted that he was interested in discussing such a process.

Vision of the Secretary to Council: Students asked Sid Rogers what his vision for his tenure as Secretary was. Mr. Rogers responded that he had no specific agenda. He noted the difficulty in balancing competing priorities both within the system, as well as in the public sector generally. He noted that he wants to work with students and all stakeholders on post-secondary issues to the extent that is possible. With respect to

students, he wants to be sure that students have influence although he noted that this does not mean that students will always get the outcomes that they would like.

Next Meeting

Dan Smith will arrange a meeting for mid to late October. Should participants want to attend this meeting by teleconference, please advise Dan Smith (945-4720, dsmith@copse.mb.ca) well in advance so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.

COPSE/Student Leaders Meeting # 3 – 2006/07

AGENDA

Time

Tuesday 29 August 2006
1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Location

Council on Post-Secondary Education
Boardroom 1
410-330 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg

Participants

College and University Students' Association Leaders
COPSE Staff

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Review of Notes from Last Meeting
3. Follow-up on items raised in last meeting
 - a. Governance issues (Dan Smith)
 - b. Student housing at UW (Susan Deane)
4. Other
5. Next Meeting
6. Adjournment

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