



INTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 21, 2023

2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

GCR (UC 2001) and Zoom Meeting

Attendance: Chair: Roshni Antony (AVP, Human Resources); Mehran Aziminezhad (CUPE); Jason Freeburn (LUTA); Dave Andreason (OPSEU); Gautam Das (LUFA); Ariadne Jevnikar (GSA); Jack Drewes (IUOE); Patrick Larin (SchII); Kathy Pozihun (VP Administration & Finance); David Barnett (Provost & VP Academic); Brandon Amyot (LUSU President); Dr. Gillian Siddall;

Guests:

Regrets: Dustin Piche (Unifor);

Recorder: Katherine Mends (Human Resources)

1. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Dave that the agenda was approved.

Seconded by Jack. All in favour. **Carried**

2. Approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting of October 17, 2023

Moved by Jack that the minutes be approved.

Seconded by Jason. All in favour. **Carried**

3. Business Arising from the Minutes

No business arising from the minutes

4. Presentation on 2024/25 Budget Development Update (Kathy) & David

David and Kathy gave a presentation on the 2024/2025 budget development. The presentation gave an update on the fall 2023 environmental scan, 2022/23 year end, 2023/24 fiscal mid year budget update and a summary of the third party review.



Gautam noted that we should have a plan for when international student come to Lakehead to ensure that they have a good experience i.e. research facilities, housing, economic development

5. Graduate Assistants on summer field schools

Jason noted that with the existing language in the CUPE collective agreement, Graduate Assistants have had issues completing their work for Field schools in the summer

Mehran added that CUPE negotiations are starting next week and this may be something that can be looked at.

6. Questions for Senior Administration

Dave inquired about the communication that went out regarding the two new positions that we posted in the Office of the President and noted that he heard a lot of negative feedback as 3 positions were becoming 2 and remaining cost neutral.

Dr. Siddall clarified that the communication that was sent out explained that given our current budget situation, the duties and salaries have been reallocated to keep this change cost-neutral. There was no reduction of positions. It was still 3 positions with a position focussing specifically on Communication.

7. Round Table Discussion

Dave noted that TSC is still struggling with workload and a high variety of issues they are dealing with.

Jack noted that the new safety inspector will start enforcing the requirements regarding office kitchens

8. Other Business

Dr. Siddall shared that a town hall is being planned for the week of December 11th to share the results of the Employee Engagement Survey. Zak from Metrics @ Work will take us through a comprehensive breakdown of the survey results.

Adjournment



Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.