

Policy 236 Review Committee

Tuesday, February 02, 2021

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

Attendees: Bryanna Anderson, Kyle Baillie, Jas Braich, Rajdeep Dhaliwal, Martha Dow, Emily Eglsaer, Stephen Gaspar, Shawn Johnston, Sarah Kopan, Greg Mather, Amanda Morrison, Zoe Strazza, Carol Suhr, Tamzen Trowell, Rebecca Wassef, Chantel Watt

Regrets: Kara Bertram, Rebekah Bracket, Anna Cook, Jessica Levesque, Lisa Moy, Maureen Murphy, Betty Peters, Mary Saudelli, Christine Zapisocki

Minutes

The meeting began with a welcome message including a Territory Acknowledgement.

1. Minutes/Notes

a. Comments:

The floor was opened to questions or comments on the previous meeting notes from December 07, 2020. No voices were raised and the meeting proceeded to the next agenda item.

b. Policy Comparison:

The chair welcomed Tamzen Trowell to present her findings and insights compiled in the comparison document (attached).

Tamzen presented (please see presentation notes attached).

Some issues of highlight and discussion in the presentation were:

- Providing descriptions and outlining the list of options for survivors/victims. This would include disclosures, civil and criminal investigations, and reports. It was also recommended to include a similar policy to KPU which states universities can conduct their own investigation. This would offer another avenue of support to survivors/victims.

- The importance of layout in the policy in regards to confidentiality, intersectionality, definitions and the Bad Faith clause. It was suggested that by placing the sections of confidentiality and intersectionality earlier in the policy it would suggest more support, safety and inclusivity to students. Definitions set earlier on in the policy could also help with understanding throughout the document. Furthermore, a Bad Faith clause positioned before the section on confidentiality suggests a lack of support.
- Much discussion ensued around the Bad Faith clause as a potential to be a barrier to stopping students from reporting sexualized violence. It was mentioned that a Bad Faith clause did not need to be included in the policy and generally applies to a very small percentage of people. The clause could also be covered under the Safe Student Policy.
- Another topic that was well received by the committee was the importance of including online platforms and social media under scope, especially in the pandemic and the majority of UFV classes conducted online.

Thanks was given to Tamzen for her presentation and no questions were brought forth by the committee.

Tamzen invited all committee members to contact her by email should they have any questions or need further clarification.

Please contact Tamzen by email: Tamzen.Trowell@student.ufv.ca.

2. Policy Updates

a. Website:

Amanda Morrison is working with the myWeb team to create a website to present Policy 236 to the community and ask for feedback. This should be created within the following week or two and will be shown to the committee before going live.

b. SVP Workshop:

Bryanna Anderson will be offering a three-part workshop on sexualized violence open to anyone in the committee who wishes to learn more. When a date has been set, interested committee members will have the opportunity to sign-up.

3. Policy Elements

a. Reporting and Statistics

Confidentiality was stated as important when it comes to reporting and statistics. It was debated about using statistics since they will not always be accurate due to under reporting of sexualized violence. However, it was said that it will also provide opportunity to empower people to report and the data collected would be used as a way to be as informed as possible.

b. Report vs. Complaint vs. Disclosure:

Not discussed and to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

c. Consent:

Not discussed and to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

d. Amnesty Protection:

Considered to be a safeguard for individuals to come forward and offer protection (usually for underage drinking or drug use), the committee was in agreement that including amnesty protection in the policy would be beneficial. The fact was raised that sexual assaults usually include alcohol. Also noted was the fact that amnesty protection could not be offered for all things, as a complainant could disclose information that may result in criminal charges.

In the end, the committee thought it best to include amnesty protection using plain language, not too vague that individuals would feel that they were free to do as they desired without consequence, and also worded to say that there would be no sanctions on UFV Policy (not criminally).

Many members wanted to explore the language of amnesty protection further in future.

ACTION: Kyle Baillie and Amanda Morrison will provide examples of Amnesty Protection language for next meeting.

e. Definitions:

Not discussed and to be added to the agenda of the next meeting.

4. Adjournment

ACTION: ALL asked by the chair to review the comparison document for issues that stand out to oneself in order to speak on that subject at the following meeting.

Next meeting: Tuesday, **February 23, 2021** from **1pm to 2pm**.