

## Policy 236 Review Committee

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

1:00pm – 2:00pm

Virtual via Zoom

**Attendees:** Bryanna Anderson, Kyle Baillie, Rebekah Bracket, Jas Braich, Rajdeep Dhaliwal, Martha Dow, Stephen Gaspar, Shawn Johnston, Sarah Kopan, Jessica Levesque, Greg Mather, Amanda Morrison, Carol Suhr, Tamzen Trowell, Rebecca Wassef

**Regrets:** Kara Bertram, Anna Cook, Emily Eglsaer, Lisa Moy, Maureen Murphy, Betty Peters, Mary Saudelli, Zoe Strazza, Chantel Watt, Christine Zapisocki

## Minutes

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The meeting began with a welcome message including a Territory Acknowledgement. Two links were provided to help fine one's own Indigenous territory:

- Canadian Association of University Teachers: <https://www.caut.ca/content/guide-acknowledging-first-peoples-traditional-territory>
- Provided in the Chat: <https://native-land.ca/>

The Agenda was reviewed and accepted.

### 1. Minutes

- a. **Comments:** The floor was then opened to questions or comments on the previous meeting notes from February 02, 2020. No voices were raised regarding comments or questions and the chair asked that if any questions or comments should arise, to please send them via email. The chair then proceeded to the next agenda item.
- b. **Policy Comparison Ideas:** Tamzen was thanked for her presentation and work on the Policy Comparison document and the floor was opened to the committee's thoughts and ideas. Some of the ideas discussed were:
  - i. The inclusion of the words "ongoing" and "revoked at any time" in the policy when referring to consent.
  - ii. To include the list of options for reporting sexualized violence including a brief overview of what which each report would entail.

- iii. Expanding the accommodation section to the ways in which UFV provides support. Noted that most schools instead say “a commitment to provide accommodations” and sometimes have supports listed elsewhere.

There was much debate over naming accommodations or supports in the policy. Some wanted the policy to be as light and understandable as possible. Others raised concern that since students’ cases are very individualistic and so are their needs. Listing all possible supports would be lengthy and may deter some from coming forward due to too little or too much detail provided. Another consideration was for those whose first language is not English as too much or too difficult language could be a barrier.

**ACTION: Amanda and Kyle will draft language for examples of support and accommodation.**

## 2. Policy Elements

- a. **Amnesty Protection:** The chair presented wording on Amnesty to the committee. Gratitude was given to Stephen Gaspar for his help and legal comments with the language and wording. The committee discussed Amnesty, it’s relations to alcohol/drugs and commitment to cease victim blaming by not requiring one’s past history (drug use/dress/sexual history). Other ideas brought forth were:
  - i. Expanding this scope into other UFV areas such as relationships with faculty and students.
  - ii. Being clear what we ask students and why. For example, to get the whole story, the use of drugs/alcohol may arise and will only be used to get the context of the story, not to penalize students.
  - iii. The non-use of sexual history to be included in the Purpose or Preamble sections to outline UFV’s commitments.
  - iv. To not use the word “amnesty” and use plain language or a concept instead.

**ACTION: Amanda, Tamzen and Kyle to draft Policy of Amnesty for feedback.**

- b. **Consent:** Tamzen has already compiled a list of common words and themes related to consent and is willing to share this with the committee. After some discussion, the suggestion to have a broader conversation about sexualized violence and consent was raised. This was due in part to the information that many myths about consent has changed (minimization effect when rape is not

involved, need to explicitly say “no”, etc.). There was also discussion about the evolving concept of consent and how it could be incorporated into the policy definition. In the end, it was decided that the next meeting’s agenda will be on consent only.

**ACTION:** All to read articles and aids sent out on consent.

**ACTION:** Bryanna and Jas to create a short presentation on myths about consent.

**ACTION:** Stephen to look into Consent in the Criminal Code.

- c. **Report vs. Complaint vs. Disclosure:** Not discussed.
- d. **Definitions:** Not discussed.

### 3. Policy Updates:

- a. **Website:** Ongoing with a target date of March 01.
- b. **SVP Workshop:** To be determined.

Please share any resources with Kyle and Amanda.

**\*\*\*Next Meeting:** March 16, 2021 from 1pm to 2pm on Zoom\*\*\*