Oversight Committee

Oversight body: DSU Council
Date Passed by Council: April 27, 2023
Date of Next Review: April 2025
Related policies, bylaws, legislation: Bylaw 5, Executive Policy

Definitions
Performance Evaluation – Formal determination of an individual’s position-related actions and their outcomes within a particular position or setting.

Honoraria – A small payment in recognition of labour performed voluntarily.

Executive Officer – A Member who is elected and responsible for directing the affairs of the Union.

Officer – Responsible for a specific set of tasks overseen by an Executive Officer or Commissioner.

Appointed Position – A role for which Council selects a nominated candidate.

Purpose
The following principles and processes have been developed to ensure accountability and efficient outcomes for those positions receiving honoraria as well as Executive Officers of the Union.

Scope
This policy applies to the Oversight Committee and Council in respect to Executive Officer and Volunteer performance, including those roles with honoraria.
Policy Statement

1. Composition

1.1 The Oversight Committee is a closed committee and shall be composed by July of each year with the following members:

1.1.1 Two Faculty Representatives on Council;
1.1.2 Two Community Representatives on Council;
1.1.3 Three Members at large with a preference for at least one member with experience in Human Resources

1.2 A Chair and Secretary for the Oversight Committee shall be determined at the Committee’s first meeting by ordinary resolution.

1.3 The Council Chair and Secretary shall assist with the executive review process by compiling attendance information and reports from executives and presenting these to the Oversight Committee within a week of the timelines set out in the DSU Executive Policy.

2. Mandate

2.1 The Oversight Committee is a Standing Committee that shall:

2.1.1 Receive complaints and feedback regarding the Executive Officers, investigate these complaints and seek to promote a resolution. If appropriate, the Committee may bring such complaints forward to Council in camera

2.1.2 Make recommendations regarding appointments for any vacancies that may arise in Union governance as per 4.3 of this policy;

2.1.3 Assist in identifying, interviewing, and recruiting candidates for standing committees;

2.1.4 Develop and recommend to Council the establishment, revision, or discontinuation of compensation and benefits for the Union’s
appointed positions, and any revisions to appointees’ terms of appointment;

2.1.4.1 Any volunteer position receiving an honoraria shall submit an end-of-term report on their completed projects which must be accompanied with a recommendation for compensation by their supervisor;

2.1.4.2 The Committee will determine, based on the end of term report, if the honoraria will be disbursed in full or some portion thereof;

2.1.5 Conduct an annual performance evaluation of each Executive Officer, done in accordance with section 3 of this policy;

2.1.6 Following performance evaluations, provide any recommendations to Council regarding:

2.1.6.1 Executive Officer roles and responsibilities;

2.1.6.2 Executive Officer remuneration;

2.1.7 Such other powers and duties as assigned by Council, from time to time.

3. Executive Officer Performance Evaluation

3.1 Guiding principles in the evaluation of an Executive Officer’s performance are:

3.1.1 Efficiency and effectiveness;

3.1.2 Accountability;

3.1.3 Professional development.

3.2 Executive Goals will be reviewed by the Oversight Committee for feedback on any policy issues or anticipated difficulties in assessment one week before being presented to Council.

3.3 Performance shall be evaluated using the approved template against the following:

3.3.1 Adopted Goal Plan’s clearly defined outcomes and timelines;
3.3.2 Bylaw and Policy compliance;
3.3.3 Meeting attendance;
3.3.4 Reporting obligations.

3.4 The Oversight Committee shall submit a mid-year evaluation summary report on the performance evaluations of each Executive Officer to Council.

3.4.1 Actual performance evaluations shall use a standardized template;
3.4.2 Completed performance evaluation sheets will be attached to the summary reports as appendices.
3.4.3 Reports will be provided to the Executive Officers one week prior to appearing at Council.

3.5 The Oversight Committee, at its discretion, may conduct and submit an end of year evaluation of the Executive Officers to the Council.

4. Appointments

4.1 When conducting the business of the Committee, the same three members of the committee will sit as a panel when interviewing all candidates for any one position.

4.2 The Committee may invite any person to assist it in interviewing and evaluating candidates.

4.3 The committee shall, from time to time throughout the year, subject to the Bylaws and Regulations of the Union, advise Council as to the appointment to the following positions:

4.3.1 the Chair of Council;
4.3.2 the Recording Secretary;
4.3.3 the Chief Returning Officer;
4.3.4 Election Committee members;
4.3.5 Judicial Board members;
4.3.6 the Sexton Campus Liaison;
4.3.7 those Officer positions paid by honorarium; and
4.3.7 such other Union and University positions as Council may time
determine.

4.4 All positions taking office May 1st shall receive nominations by the
outgoing Committee and be appointed by the outgoing Council.

4.5 The Committee, after completing the interviews and evaluations of
applicants, shall make a recommendation to the Council as to the
most suitable or preferred applicant(s) or may recommend that
nominations be re-opened.

4.6 In the instance that the Council feels a nomination from the
Committee is not suitable, it retains the right to appoint another
candidate. The council may also provide comments back to the
committee as to how to improve its processes so as to improve the
candidate’s suitability.