

Important update regarding academic accommodation

The Student Association of George Brown College (SAGBC) discovered a policy titled: “A Statement of Principles and Procedures Regarding Academic Issues During and Following A Disruption of Academic Programming” on the George Brown website. It was reviewed and approved by the Board of Governors on August 31, 2006, as it was intended to support the post-strike period that occurred at that time.

On Nov. 27, 2017 the SAGBC executive committee reminded the College of this policy, as it already covered a number of the questions and requests for governing principles the executives posed to the administration, such as fairness to students, student success and academic integrity. In addition, the policy outlined alternative methods that the faculty could utilize to ensure student success post-strike.

This policy outlined multiple alternatives to safeguard students’ learning outcomes, such as:

- “ 1. **Pass/fail** option may be used in limited cases where faculty members have sufficient evidence that students have/have not met the essential outcomes, but they do not have sufficient information to use the standards grading values.*
- 2. **Aegrotat** standing may be used in exceptional cases (a) where students, for good reason, have not been able to complete the work required for evaluation and (b) where the faculty member is confident that the students are sufficiently prepared to graduation or to the next level of study.*
- 3. **Standing Deferred** may be used if outcomes have to be postponed to a subsequent semester. This would be used where students will not have the opportunity to learn critical material and cannot reasonably do so in the time available.”*

- George Brown College, Academic Policies and Guidelines (August 31, 2006)

On Nov. 27, 2017, the SAGBC executive members had wanted to post this policy, for the sake of students’ awareness, as of as they recognize there is still a lot of stress and anxiety coming off of the strike.

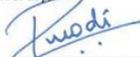
On Nov. 28, 2017, after the executives presented this policy to the College, and they were informed that it had been rescinded and it was removed from the website. The executives of the SAGBC asked for the date and minutes from the Board of Governors meeting where this policy was supposedly rescinded.

On Nov. 29, 2017, the College informed the executive that their labour relations staff advised that there was no issue with using the original policy as it was written in 2006 and they will repost it back to the website.

While this is great news, there needs to be recognition of this failing of awareness on the College’s part during the negotiations between the SAGBC and the College. The SAGBC demanded from the College that this policy be reposted on its website, and we are happy to announce that it has been reposted.

In conclusion, the executives of the SAGBC will continue to advocate for the wellbeing of students and the utmost success of their semester. The executive members of the SAGBC encourage students to use this policy as they continue their academic year.

Sincerely,



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Director of Communications and Internal



Mercedes Burrowes
Director of Campus Life



Tiffany White
Director of Education



Alex Stewart
Director of Equity