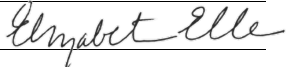


MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION:	Senate
FROM:	Elizabeth Elle, Vice-Chair, Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies
RE:	Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute (SCUS 23-71)
DATE:	July 7, 2023 

Action undertaken by SCUS on July 6, 2023, gives rise to the following recommendation:

Motion

That Senate approve the revised “Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute.”



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
Student Services

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MEMORANDUM

ATTENTION	SCUS	DATE	June 20, 2023
FROM	Tom Nault Registrar & Executive Director		
RE:	Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute		

Preamble:

Guidelines affecting students “in the event of a labour dispute or other disruption” were brought to Senate in January of 2000 ([S.00-18](#)). The 2000 guidelines were based on existing policies at that time, but do not reflect the current context, notably the SFUFA – SFU Collective agreement, and recent improvements to our procedure for academic concessions.

The following revisions to the 2000 guidelines, are submitted for SCUS consideration.

Motion: that SCUS approve and recommend to Senate the revised “Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute”.

Calendar Language:

Guidelines for Courses in the Event of a Labour Dispute

In the event of a lawful strike, lock out or other labour disruption, it is the University’s intention to continue operation. To the extent possible, instruction in all credit courses, examinations, and access to important and core services will continue as scheduled.

The University respects the legal right of bargaining units to strike and respects the rights of students or course instructors as a matter of conscience to refuse to cross a lawful picket line in a labour dispute.

Student responsibilities

Where a student chooses not to cross a lawful picket line but the relevant University course-related activities continue despite job action, a student has the following responsibilities:

1. To fulfill all [course requirements](#).
2. To inform their course instructor as soon as possible, following normal procedures for missing class as defined for the course.

3. Where they are unable to complete graded course work or miss an examination, to follow the normal procedure for [academic concessions](#).
4. Where they miss their thesis defence, to contact their Senior Supervisor as soon as possible.
5. To attempt to resolve any difficulties relating to their courses first with their instructor, and then with the appropriate Department Chair, as per [normal processes](#).

Instructor responsibilities:

1. Classes may not be relocated or changed to remote instruction as an attempt to avoid labour disruption ([Policy GP 05](#)).
2. Instructors are required to inform their supervisor (Chair, Director or Dean) as soon as possible in the event they choose not to cross a picket line.
3. To the extent possible, instructors are expected to communicate expeditiously with their students in the event they choose not to cross a picket line, including explaining the disposition of course materials that may be missed.
4. Should a student exercise their legal right not to cross a picket line, instructors should follow the normal procedures regarding [academic concessions](#).

Assignment of Grades:

Assignment of grades should follow the [normal procedure](#) as much as possible. If, as a result of a lawful labour disruption, assignment of grades is not completed, the University will request the Chair, the Dean, or a designate of the Dean to attempt to assign grades using the normal evaluation plan for the course.